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# Quadrennial reports 2005-2008 submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General**

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# 1. Feminist Majority Foundation

**Special, 2001**

## I. Introduction

The Feminist Majority Foundation was founded in 1987 to create new strategies and programmes for women's equality and empowerment, to promote non-violence, to work for the elimination of social and economic injustice, and to promote learning and research for the furtherance of feminist ideas and studies. Our research and our programmes focus on advancing the legal, social and political equality of women with men, countering backlash to women's advancement and recruiting and training young feminists to encourage future leadership for the feminist movement in the United States of America. Since its inception, the Foundation's programmes have incorporated a global perspective and participation in specific initiatives on behalf of women's human rights, economic security and justice, health and education.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

(a) Forty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development, April 2009, New York. The Foundation's Global Programmes Coordinator attended the session and also attended meetings organized by the United States delegation to the Commission;

(b) Forty-first session of the Commission on Population and Development, April 2008, New York. The Foundation's Global Programmes Coordinator participated in the meeting and presented a statement together with Population Action International and the International Planned Parenthood Federation;

(c) Fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, February-March 2008, New York. The Foundation's Global Programmes Coordinator participated in the meetings and events organized by the Non-Government Organization (NGO) Committee on the Status of Women;

(d) Forty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, March 2004, New York. The Foundation's Deputy Director of Global Programmes attended the session, NGO briefings and workshops;

(e) Forty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women, March 2003, New York. The Foundation's Deputy Director of Policy and Programmes and Global Associate attended meetings of the Commission and participated in workshops and briefings organized by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) and NGOs;

(f) Thirty-sixth session on the Commission on Population and Development, March-April 2003, New York. The Foundation's Deputy Director of Global Programmes attended the session;

(g) Forty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, March 2001, New York. The Foundation's Deputy Director of Policy and Programmes and Director of Global Programmes participated in the Commission meeting and meetings and events organized by the NGO Committee on the Status of Women.

## B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

1. Beijing + 10: the Feminist Majority Foundation, in coalition with other NGOs, worked in support of the Beijing Platform for Action in preparation for the Commission on the Status of Women's ten-year review of the document.

2. General support of United Nations activities: through its extremely active and newly rebranded website and educational activities throughout the United States of America, the Foundation broadly disseminates information about the United Nations and its programmes and actions on women's rights and human rights.

3. Other relevant activities:

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW): the Feminist Majority Foundation works with a broad coalition of NGOs in Washington, D.C., to provide information and education on the Convention and works to secure ratification of the Convention by the United States of America. The campaign for United States ratification is one of our major global campaign objectives. In 2009, the Foundation produced its educational DVD on the Convention entitled "CEDAW: The Secret Treaty", for distribution to over 400 college campuses in the United States of America where we currently have grass-roots student groups, our Feminist Majority Leadership Alliances. In 2001, the Foundation contributed funds for and wrote part of the publication *Human Rights for All ... CEDAW*. In 2005, the Foundation contributed funds for an updated edition, entitled *CEDAW: Rights That Benefit the Entire Community*.

International Criminal Court: the Foundation's Deputy Director of Policy and Programmes and Global Programmes Coordinator both serve as members of the Steering Committee of the American Non-Governmental Organizations Coalition for the International Criminal Court. The Coalition is a group of NGOs committed to achieving, through education, information, promotion and an informed public, the full support of the United States of America for the International Criminal Court and the earliest possible ratification by the United States of the Court's Rome Statute.

# 2. International Planned Parenthood Federation

**General, 1973**

## I. Introduction

The International Planned Parenthood Federation is a global service provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights. It is a worldwide movement of national community-based organizations working in 171 countries. In 2003, the Federation adopted a new strategic framework (2005-2015) to focus its work on five priority areas: (a) adolescents/young people (to ensure that they are aware of and can make informed choices relating to their sexual and reproductive rights); (b) HIV and AIDS (to reduce the global incidence of and protect the rights of those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS); (c) abortion (to reduce unsafe abortion and increase access to legal abortion); (d) access (to information on sexual and reproductive health, and to education and services for all, in particular the poor and marginalized); and (e) advocacy (to increase support for sexual and reproductive health and rights). These five priority areas are complemented by four supporting strategies: governance and accreditation; resource mobilization; capacity-building; and monitoring and evaluation.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The Federation has participated at numerous United Nations events since 2005; however, owing to the limitation in the length of the present report, only a number of those activities are listed.

(a) The 2009 Annual Ministerial Review of the Economic and Social Council, July 2009, Geneva. The Federation advocated for the inclusion of Millennium Development Goal target 5b in the resolution and delivered an oral statement on young people's sexual and reproductive health; (b) eleventh session of the Human Rights Council, June 2009, Geneva. The Federation advocated with other NGOs in support of the resolution on preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights and co-sponsored a panel event on that theme; (c) forty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development, March-April 2009, New York. The Federation advocated on Millennium Development Goal target 5b and young people's sexual and reproductive health; delivered written and oral statements on that topic, and held a side event on the theme "The promises of the International Conference on Population and Development for Young People" hosted by the Government of the Netherlands. The Federation participates in this event annually; (d) fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women, March 2009, New York. The Federation organized and moderated a side event on the theme "Promoting sexual and reproductive empowerment". The Federation participates in this event annually; (e) International AIDS Conference, August 2008, Mexico City. At this event, co-sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the Federation highlighted linking sexual and reproductive health and HIV at the policy, programme and

service delivery levels. The Federation presented at various symposiums and chaired a United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) side event on the theme "The role of funding mechanisms in creating synergy between sexual and reproductive health and HIV programmes", chaired an Inter-Agency Task Team side event on the theme "Comprehensive condom programming: so much potential, yet so little progress", and, with UNFPA, launched "Make it matter: 10 advocacy messages to prevent HIV in girls and young women"; (f) commemorative high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly devoted to the follow-up to the special session on children, "A world fit for children +5", December 2007, New York. A representative of the Federation spoke at a United Nations Foundation luncheon on the theme "Comprehensive sexuality education: ensuring children's sexual and reproductive health and rights". The Federation was selected to represent civil society in the round table on "Promoting healthy lives and combating HIV/AIDS"; (g) High-Level Meeting on AIDS, May-June 2006, New York. The Federation advocated for links between sexual and reproductive health and HIV; (h) International Conference on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, July 2005, Kobe, Japan. The Federation advocated for mainstreaming HIV into sexual and reproductive health and held a side event with UNFPA on the theme "Integration in action: mainstreaming HIV into sexual and reproductive health and rights programmes and policies". The Federation played a key role at the International Conference on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific in 2005, 2007 and 2009.

## B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The Federation cooperates with various United Nations bodies and specialized agencies. Owing to the space limitation of the present report, only a few activities are recorded.

The Federation participates at annual meetings of the WHO Executive Board and World Health Assembly. As a steering committee member of the Implementing Best Practice consortium, the Federation participates in WHO consultations, online forums and dissemination initiatives.

The Federation participated in the online discussion on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women in June and July 2007, which was organized by the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations.

For the meeting on verification of the "Global linkages needs assessment tool" in May 2008, New York, the Federation contributed to the development of a rapid assessment tool for sexual and reproductive health and HIV linkages with WHO, UNFPA and UNAIDS.

The Federation is a participating member of the Inter-agency Working Group on Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV convened by WHO (2008-present).

The Federation participated in the WHO-UNFPA workshop held in December 2007 in Addis Ababa on the theme "Building UNFPA and WHO country office capacity to integrate sexual and reproductive health in national development and health sectoral planning processes".

The Federation attends regional meetings of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

At the global consultation on sexual and reproductive rights of people living with HIV, held in December 2007, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, the Federation provided technical support with WHO, UNAIDS and UNFPA and was an expert reviewer of the guidance package.

Memorandum of Understanding between UNAIDS and the Federation (2007-2010). This contributes to a strengthened response to AIDS in: prevention; policy and human rights advocacy; reduced stigma and discrimination; and capacity-building.

The Federation was on the WHO Technical Review Panel for "Essential care and prevention for people living with HIV" (2006-2007) providing technical assistance to the family planning expert panel.

Memorandum of Understanding between UNFPA and the Federation (1996-2009). This strengthened relations, developed collaborative/coordinated approaches and facilitated information exchange on policy matters related to the objectives of each organization.

Memorandum of Understanding between UNAIDS and the Federation (2004-2006). This strengthened the response to HIV in the mainstreaming of prevention among women and young people, capacity-building, policy and human rights and optimizing resources.

The Federation also produced a number of publications with various bodies of the Economic and Social Council and specialized agencies, including "Linkages: evidence review and recommendations" (2007/09) co-authored with UNFPA, WHO and UNAIDS. The Federation co-authored "Change choice and power: young women, livelihoods and HIV prevention" (2007) with UNFPA and Young Positives. The Federation developed and co-authored "HIV report cards on HIV prevention for girls and young women" (2006/09) with UNFPA for Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Serbia, the Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand and Uganda. The Federation co-authored "Ending child marriage: a guide for global policy action" (2006) with UNFPA, the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS and Young Positives. The Federation co-authored "Linking sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS: an annotated inventory" (2006) with UNFPA, WHO and UNAIDS. The Federation co-authored "A framework for priority linkages" (2005/07) with WHO, UNFPA and UNAIDS.

## C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The Federation is a prominent national and global advocate for the Millennium Development Goals and provides access to sexual reproductive health services and information to help achieve the health-related Millennium Development Goals and Goal 3. In addition, many member associations of the Federation are involved in a wide range of maternal health and paediatric activities. Goal 3: 93 per cent of the Federation's member associations implement gender-focused programmes. The Federation was awarded the Goal 3 Champion Torch by the Government of

Denmark (2008). Goal 5: High-Level Event on the Millennium Development Goals, September 2008, New York. The Federation co-organized a meeting co-hosted by the Presidents of Chile, Finland and the United Republic of Tanzania entitled "Commitment to progress for mothers, newborns and children". In 2008, the Federation provided 66 million sexual and reproductive health services to an estimated 31 million clients, 70 per cent of whom are poor, marginalized, socially excluded and/or underserved. Goal 6: in 2008, 79 per cent of the Federation's member associations implemented strategies to reach those vulnerable to HIV infection and distributed nearly 140 million condoms. The Federation chaired Global Partners in Action: NGO Forum for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Development, September 2009, Berlin, Germany, co-hosted by UNFPA and the Government of Germany. A "Call to Action" to meet the 2015 deadline for achieving the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and an NGO action plan was issued.

## D. Activities in support of global principles

The Federation annually marks World AIDS Day. In 2008, it launched "Verdict on a virus: public health, human rights and criminal law". In 2007, the Federation held a photo exhibition at the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Department for International Development highlighting the lives, hopes and aspirations of young women affected by HIV and AIDS. In 2006, the Federation produced posters on why HIV is exceptional. In 2005, the Federation launched "Fulfilling fatherhood: experiences from HIV positive fathers". The Federation marks World Population Day annually by organizing a reception co-hosted by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Reproductive Health at the House of Lords of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Federation also marks World Contraception Day and International Women's Day.

# 3. International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations

**General, 1973**

## I. Introduction

The International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations is an international youth and student organization working with young people, students and member associations on all continents. It fulfils the aims and ideals of the United Nations in the areas of peace, justice, development and human rights through advocacy and dissemination of knowledge about the United Nations.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in United Nations meetings and conferences

Between 2005 and 2009, the Movement participated in annual sessions of the Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies, the Human Rights Council and major United Nations meetings and conferences, including: (a) submission of a statement at the General Assembly interactive hearings with NGOs and civil society organizations in preparation for the Millennium Summit, June 2005, New York; (b) organization of a side event at the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, April 2005, New York; (c) presentation of joint statements and organization of side events with other NGOs at the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference, April-May 2008, Geneva; (d) contribution to a joint statement on indigenous peoples with NGOs in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council at the Human Rights Council, September 2008, Geneva; (e) moderation of the Doha civil society open plenary session at the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterey Consensus, November-December 2008, Doha.

### B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

In cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, the Movement created the international youth leadership training for the promotion of South-South cooperation, April 2006.

### C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The Movement prepared a document entitled "Report on the fight against poverty in the Republic of the Congo, Brazzaville" in July 2006. To mark United Nations special observances, the Movement organized exhibitions, seminars, symposiums, etc., to educate and create awareness at the local level of issues affecting the environment and HIV/AIDS.

In 2007 and 2008, the Movement played a lead role in promoting NGO cooperation at the Durban Review Conference. It functioned as a convener of the NGO Committee against Racism at the Durban follow-up working group, as the secretariat of the World against Racism Network, and as coordinator of the preparations for a broad-based civil society forum that was held at the Durban Review Conference.

# 4. Iranian Elite Research Centre

**Special, 2005**

## I. Introduction

The main objective of the Iranian Elite Research Centre is the promotion of sustainable development. However, at the fourth general meeting of the organization in October 2005, two amendments were made to the Centre's charter, namely: to article 7, on the geographical area of activity, "the research unit will conduct its activities on an international scale"; and to article 10, in which the aims of item 12 were added to include "the promotion of human rights".

## II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

### A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

(a) World Summit on the Information Society, November 2005, Tunis, participated in the panel discussion on expanding communications networks and access to information systems;

(b) Human Rights Council, June 2006, Geneva, participated in the Council's plenary sessions;

(c) Human Rights Council, September 2008, Geneva, participated in the plenary sessions;

(d) Human Rights Council, March 2009, Geneva, participated in the Council's plenary sessions;

(e) Durban Review Conference, April 2009, Geneva, participated in plenary sessions.

### B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

From 2005 to 2008, the Centre supported a number of activities in support of United Nations development goals. They included: (a) provision of instruction in carpet-weaving techniques to girls and women in 20 villages across Iran's rural north to promote income-earning activities; (b) conducting environmental awareness courses for local women to help preserve the ecosystem of the Caspian Sea area; (c) provision of instruction in domestic waste management and recycling for 1,500 rural women; (d) protection of human rights under the European Convention on Human Rights (2007); (e) children's rights with special consideration of the Charter of the United Nations and domestic (Iranian) law (2008); (f) freedom of the Iranian press from the perspective of international human rights law (2008); (g) an overview of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (2005); (h) the status of temporary imprisonment within the framework of the European Court of Human Rights (2006); (i) an investigation and comparative examination between human

rights in Islamic jurisprudence and international human rights charters (2006); (j) the liability of the international community regarding violations of compulsory and voluntary human rights (2007); (k) a comparative assessment of freedom of opinion in Islam, Iranian law, and international human rights conventions (2008); (l) the role and standing of the United Nations in confronting global terrorism (2008); (m) the United Nations and its human rights record (2006); (n) national security and human rights in developing nations: Iran (2008).

# 5. National Society for Human Rights

**Special, 1997**

## I. Introduction

The National Society for Human Rights is a human rights monitoring and advocacy organization. Its objectives are to: (a) secure recognition and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including those in the Namibian Constitution and in the international human rights and humanitarian treaties and declarations adopted by the United Nations, its specialized agencies and similar international bodies; (b) promote democracy, respect for the rule of law, and independence of the judiciary; (c) promote cultural, social and political tolerance for all; (d) promote accessibility, responsiveness, accountability and transparency in public administration; and (e) promote representative political power.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

From 2005 to 2008, the Society published, distributed and disseminated over 80,000 booklets in six local languages on human rights and responsibilities as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as international human rights treaties. The Society assisted the local office of the United Nations information centre in distributing and disseminating over 1,000 copies of the International Bill of Human Rights in public schools and other public and private educational institutions in Namibia and conducted numerous workshops on human rights for both civilians and police officers in the Ohangwena and Kavango regions of the country. It administered a three-month basic training course for human rights defenders and political activists with the United Nations dealing with, inter alia, civic education and international humanitarian and human rights laws.

### A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

In December 2006, the Society sent a letter to the International Criminal Court to request an investigation of former Namibian President Sam Nujoma and three others *ratione personae* for their respective roles in instigating, planning, supervising, abetting, aiding, defending and perpetuating the disappearance of over 7,000 people who went missing during armed conflicts before and after the independence of Namibia.

In July 2008, the Society submitted a shadow report under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to help the Committee ascertain the status of the Convention in Namibia.

In September 2008, the Society released a thematic report entitled "Namibia enforced disappearances: discovery of 'no name' gravesites", together with a video report on the evidence of mass graves discovered along the Angolan-Namibian border, which was submitted to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary

Disappearances of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

In December 2006, the Society submitted a shadow report under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to help the Committee assess the accuracy of the report submitted by the Government of Namibia in 2006.

The Society also organized celebrations and commemorations of International Human Rights Day and to mark the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and create awareness on the importance of human rights in Namibia.

## B. Initiatives in support of the Millennium Development Goals

During the reporting period, the Society built a community school for 240 children of the culturally and socially disadvantaged Ovahimba and Ovazemba indigenous minority groups in the country's Kunene region.

# 6. Orbicom: réseau des Chaires UNESCO en communication

**General, 1997**

## I. Introduction

Areas of activity: development of communication in the world, geographical distribution

28 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Chairs in Communication (Brisbane, Australia; Sofia; São Paulo, Brazil; Montreal, Canada; Santiago; Beijing; Bogota; Copenhagen; European Chair, Strasbourg, France; Grenoble, France; Tbilisi; Konstanz, Germany; Guatemala City; Almaty, Kazakhstan; Vilnius; Mexico City; Rabat; Lima; Moscow; Durban, South Africa; Grahamstown, South Africa; Barcelona, Madrid, Malaga, Spain; Dubai; Austin, Texas and Boulder, Colorado, United States of America; Montevideo; and 250 associate members in 73 countries.

Constitution: Orbicom is a specialized network of UNESCO jointly created in 1994 by UNESCO and the University of Quebec in Montreal.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Representatives attended the following meetings: (a) United Nations Internet Governance Forum, October-November 2006, Athens; (b) United Nations Internet Governance Forum, November 2007, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; (c) Commission on Science and Technology for Development, May 2007, Geneva.

### B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

2005: as a direct response to the 2003 World Summit on the Information Society Action Plan, a "Digital Opportunity Index" was produced by Orbicom as a joint International Telecommunication Union-Orbicom initiative for the 2005 World Summit on Information Society, Tunis, and Tunisia along with new publications;

2006: the International Telecommunication Union adopted Orbicom's methodology and method of measuring the digital divide and produced the index in 2006;

2007: launching of three research publications at the Global Knowledge Partnership + 10 Conference, Kuala Lumpur, as a follow-up of the World Summit on the Information Society;

2003-2005: (a) third edition of the research "Digital Review of Asia Pacific"; (b) "Emerging development opportunities: the making of information societies and markets"; (c) "Engendering the knowledge societies: measuring women's participation".

# 7. Youth Association for Habitat and Agenda 21

**Special, 2005**

## I. Introduction

### Aims and purposes of the organization

The Youth Association for Habitat is a non-governmental organization which aims to develop capacities and empower youth in order to make young people active and participative, capable of proposing solutions and implementing their own projects. With the purpose of achieving those targets, the Association ensures the participation of youth in national and international youth-related events of the United Nations, the European Union and the Council of Europe. Focusing on problems and the needs of youth, the Association develops and implements concrete projects with the active participation of young people.

## II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in United Nations meetings: (a) 10-year review of the World Programme of Action for Youth, October 2005, New York. A representative attended the meeting, and a side event on "Localization of the World Programme of Action for Youth" was organized, a contribution was submitted to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session and a speech on "Youth and civil society" was made during the session of the Economic and Social Council; (b) United Nations Global Youth Leadership Summit, October 2006, New York. A representative from the Association attended the summit in order to provide information on the present activities of the Association in achieving Millennium Development Goals and to share the contribution of young people in this process through the local Agenda 21 programme; (c) fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, October 2008, Vienna. A representative attended the meeting in order to determine how the Association could contribute to the work and competency areas of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Turkey.

### A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Member of the United Nations Global Compact since June 2006: the Association partners with private companies in order to create and implement more sustainable and inclusive projects for youngsters in Turkey. In accordance with this strategy, the Association decided to become involved in the global compact and to help advance its universal principles.

## B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The Association has been implementing partnership projects in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) since 1997. This partnership started within the framework of the Local Agenda 21 Programme in Turkey and continued with projects on youth participation in different fields. The partners of the programme are the Government of Turkey, UNDP, United Cities and local governments, world organizations and the Association. The phases implemented between 2005 and 2008 are: (a) localizing the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and World Summit on Sustainable Development Plan of Implementation through the Local Agenda 21 Governance Network in Turkey — 2004-2006; (b) localizing the United Nations Millennium Development Goals in Turkey through the Local Agenda 21 Governance Network — 2007-2008.

During two phases, the main focus has been on the Millennium Development Goal commitments of the Government of Turkey by advocating the prioritization of the Millennium Development Goals in local action through local councils in Turkey for achieving the Goals and rendering of accountability for shortfalls; advocating the critical role of local authorities in promoting gender equality, and engaging broader segments of society, including the private sector, in localizing the Government's Millennium Development Goals commitments. In this programme, the Association assumed the role of mobilizing the local youth councils established under City Councils according to the amended Law of Municipalities (Law 76, October 2006). As a result of the project activities, 73 local youth councils were active in the localization of the Millennium Development Goals in Turkey through the campaign "Our city supports the United Nations Millennium Development Goals".

Since 2005, many projects on information and communications technologies under the Empowerment of Youth for E-transformation of Turkey Programme are being implemented. The main target is to promote the effectiveness of youth for the development of e-inclusion in Turkey. Those projects are specifically targeting the achievement of Millennium Development Goal 8. As a result of the success of those projects, the Association was awarded a medal for the 2008 European e-Inclusion Awards, a European Commission initiative.

Empowerment of youth for e-transformation of Turkey (2005-2011): the aim of the project is to strengthen the information and communications technology use capacities of local youth platforms and to create employment opportunities for those who have received information technology training. Partners are UNDP, State Planning Agency of Turkey, the Association and Microsoft Turkey. The number of young people reached is around 45,000 trainees on basic information technology knowledge and 850 trainers at the local and regional levels.

Bridging the digital divide (2007-2010): the project aims at increasing information technologies utilizing capabilities of 1 million young people through the European Computer Driving Licence training to be provided over the Internet and envisages that youth will become effective, computer literate individuals. Partners are the Youth Association for Habitat and Agenda 21, UNDP and the Vodafone Turkey Foundation. The number of young people reached is 250,000.

Youth movement in informatics project: aims to improve the level of information technology expertise among youth while encouraging volunteerism, supports young people in developing their capacities to realize their full potential through a peer

education model based on advanced information technology and networking skills. Partners are the Youth Association for Habitat and Agenda 21, UNDP, Cisco Turkey, Istanbul Technical University, and the Informatics Foundation of Turkey. During the first period (2006-2007) 120 young people received training from 8 volunteers. In 2008, the project started to be carried out with the support of local governments, and the number of people reached was 157 trainees and 25 trainers.

Strengthening youth networks in Turkey project (2008-2009): developed by the Association, Teachers without Borders, Cisco Systems and UNDP, aims to improve communication sharing among youth organizations. As of the end of 2008, approximately 4,000 young people were enrolled in the network.

Partnerships with the United Nations Population Fund: within the Youth Story Project (2006-2009), the Association, in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund, has been advocating youth-friendly policies and pioneering the development and spread of information to youngsters in Turkey regarding sexual and reproductive health. A total of 250 young advocators on sexual and reproductive health were reached.

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# Quadrennial reports for the period 2005-2008 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General**

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# 1. Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative

**Special, 2005**

## I. Introduction

### Aims and purposes of the organization

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative is an independent, non-partisan, international non-governmental organization (NGO), mandated to ensure the practical realization of human rights throughout the Commonwealth. Its objectives are to promote awareness of and adherence to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Harare Commonwealth Declaration and other internationally recognized human rights instruments, as well as in-country laws and policies that support human rights in Member States. The Initiative places particular emphasis on the democratic principles of accountability and participation, and has developed a strong focus on access to justice and access to information, as these are crucial for the poor and marginalized to better realize their citizenship and participate in their own governance.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

In furtherance of its consultative status with the Economic and Social Council granted in July 2005, the Initiative has undertaken the following activities. It submitted a statement on policing to the last session of the Commission on Human Rights in March 2006, participated in the joint NGO statement presented to the Commission at its last session and signed a collaborative civil society letter to encourage the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations a resolution to establish the new Human Rights Council. Since the inception of the Human Rights Council in 2006, the Initiative has focused in particular on the new Council and has been monitoring the progress of commitments made by Commonwealth members of the Council in their pre-election pledges. During June 2007, upon the completion of the Council's first year, the Initiative analysed the accountability among Commonwealth members of the Council and published a relevant report.

The Initiative also submitted statements to the Council at its fifth and sixth sessions in 2007 and at its eighth session in 2008. During September 2007, one Initiative member attended a training programme on the Council, attended the September part of the sixth session and engaged with that body on many issues during the final stages of its institution-building phase. From 2005 to 2008, the Initiative participated in many civil society initiatives at the Commission and the Council, resulting in various joint statements and declarations. It is part of a network of prominent civil society groups working on the Council on a cross-regional basis, has participated in many crucial meetings of the network and has actively shaped its goals and objectives from a global South perspective. It made submissions on the six Commonwealth countries that were considered in the first review session, in

April 2008 (India, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), and in the second review session, in May 2008 (Ghana, Pakistan, Zambia). The Initiative encouraged other civil society organizations to make submissions and participated in a national NGO forum in India in November 2007, which subsequently made a submission to the review process. It organized two country consultations in Accra (29 April 2008) and London (2 May 2008).

In 2008, the Initiative issued the second edition of its report analysing the accountability among Commonwealth members of the Council. It resourced a meeting organized in London by the Commonwealth secretariat in March 2008 aimed at helping countries prepare human rights reports for the universal periodic review. Twenty-five representatives from Governments, national human rights institutions and NGOs from nine Commonwealth member countries attended the meeting. It also resourced the Commonwealth secretariat's Caribbean regional seminar on the universal periodic review, held in Barbados in October 2008. Its inputs in the two aforementioned meetings were published by the Commonwealth secretariat in a universal periodic review best practice guide in 2009.

## B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The Initiative collaborated on several occasions with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on good governance initiatives and worked to synergize efforts with UNDP to promote the adoption of transparency laws or disclosure policies in the Pacific region. In August 2006, it was invited by the UNDP subregional office to conduct a three-day awareness-raising exercise on the right to information for NGOs from all islands in the region.

## C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The Initiative critiqued the draft UNDP guide to measuring the impact of the right to information, a 2006 publication which includes indicators on the exercise of the right to information by marginalized groups. In July 2008, the Director of the Initiative participated in a panel discussion organized by UNDP in New Delhi on "Tackling corruption, transforming lives". From November 2006 to February 2008, the Initiative developed pilots for a television series on legal literacy and citizens' rights vis-à-vis police, for the Strengthening Access to Justice in India project, which UNDP is executing on behalf of the Department of Justice of India. A seven-member multidisciplinary team led by the National Programme Director of the UNDP-sponsored police reform programme in Bangladesh participated in a regional round table on police reforms organized by the Initiative in New Delhi in March 2007.

# 2. European Law Students Association

**Special, 1997**

## I. Introduction

### Aims and purposes of the organization

The European Law Students Association is an international, independent, non-political and non-profit-making organization run by and for law students and young lawyers. Founded in 1981, it is the world's largest independent law students' association. It is represented in more than 200 faculties in 40 European countries, with a membership of 30,000 students and young lawyers. Association members are internationally minded individuals committed to professional and personal development through the exchange of cultural experiences and legal knowledge.

The basis of its activities is the following philosophy statement: the Association's vision is a just world in which there is respect for human dignity and cultural diversity. The purpose of the organization is to contribute to legal education, to foster mutual understanding and to promote social responsibility of law students and young lawyers. This is achieved by providing opportunities for law students and young lawyers to learn about other cultures and legal systems in a spirit of critical dialogue and scientific cooperation, assisting law students and young lawyers to be internationally minded and professionally skilled, and encouraging law students and young lawyers to act for the good of society.

Through the Association's activities, its members acquire broad cultural understanding and legal experience. The activities include seminars and conferences, study visits, the student trainee exchange programme and academic activities, such as legal research groups, moot court competitions and essay competitions. Its largest international project is the worldwide Association moot court competition on the law of the World Trade Organization, which has been organized annually since 2003.

The Association is continuously committed to human rights awareness, human rights education and respect of the rule of law. It has a cooperation agreement with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In October 2005, it was granted observer status with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization was represented at the meetings and sessions of United Nations institutions. Delegations, consisting of law students and young lawyers, were nominated by the European Law Students Association International after an internal selection process. Their task was to do research on the relevant topic, attend the meeting or session of the body in question and, after the meeting, submit a report

which was available for the entire Association network. Delegates were obliged to give a presentation to Association members in their country upon request.

The Association participated in the forty-ninth, fiftieth, fifty-first and fifty-second sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, held at United Nations Headquarters.

In addition, it participated in the fifty-seventh session of the United Nations Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, held in Geneva in 2005, and in the forty-third and forty-fourth sessions of the United Nations Commission for Social Development, held at United Nations Headquarters in 2005 and 2006, respectively.

It also participated in the fifth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, held at United Nations Headquarters in 2006. In 2007, it participated in the seventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

The Association was actively involved in the establishment of the International Criminal Court and took part in the assemblies of the States parties to the Rome Statute.

In addition, the Association has participated regularly in the sessions of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and has participated in the sessions of the Working Group on Procurement, the Working Group on Arbitration and Conciliation, the Working Group on Transport Law and the Working Group on Security Interests.

Two members of the International Board attended the award ceremony for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Prize for Peace Education, held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris in 2006.

## B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The Association cooperates with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies in its key area activities: its local, national and international groups cooperate with the United Nations when organizing events, such as seminars, conferences and law schools. The Association arranges institutional study visits, where its members have the possibility to visit international institutions and gain academic knowledge about their field of work in order to complement their university curricula and report on their experience at the home faculties.

The Association's international focus programme concentrates on a particular legal topic for a certain period of time. During 2006, the topic was "25 years of legal development", with a subtopic, "United Nations in the twenty-first century".

For the period 2007-2010, the topic is intellectual property law. The Association is cooperating closely with WIPO, to which it provides speakers and academic assistance. The Association also participates regularly in WIPO meetings and sessions.

## C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Association groups on the national and local levels regularly organize events and campaigns in support of the Millennium Development Goals: (a) the human rights programme of the organization in Poland: in 2008, the local groups organized a charity campaign and raised funds for vaccines for children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the framework "Children's Day in Africa" of the United Nations Children's Fund; (b) "Baltic trainings" take place annually and in recent years have been held in Lithuania and Kaliningrad, Russian Federation. The aim of the training is to provide Association members with knowledge and skills in organizing human rights events, creating a multiplier effect in their home countries. In 2008, the topic was "human rights and globalization".

# 3. Inter-American Press Association

**Special, 1953**

## I. Introduction

### Aims and purposes of the organization

The Inter-American Press Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to defending freedom of expression and press throughout the Americas. The two main objectives of the organization are to defend press freedom wherever it is challenged in the Americas and to be of service to its members and to society by (a) advocating the dignity, rights and responsibilities of journalism, and (b) encouraging high standards of professional and business conduct, fostering the exchange of ideas and information that contribute to the professional and technical development of the press, and fostering a wider knowledge and greater interchange among the people of the Americas in support of the basic principles of an open and free society, and individual liberty.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

The organization carried out an ongoing programme dedicated to the intellectual stimulation of children. The programme entitled "The newspaper in education" was geared to enable schools to provide students with an understanding and awareness of the information available, and encouraged examining that information to enable its transformation to knowledge and experience. This initiative developed the background at an early age to enable students to grow so as to perform the type of jobs required currently and to achieve self-fulfilment.

In order to facilitate the implementation of this programme, in 2002 the organization developed a comprehensive manual to assist newspapers, educators and the school systems in Latin America to implement a programme to improve the educational level of the students by mixing daily news stories with the traditional materials in school texts. The manual continues to be in use today.

As part of this initiative, the Association, in conjunction with the Chilean Association of Newspapers, organized a major conference in Santiago, in 2007 on strategies to develop a well-rounded readership.

### A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The Association organized a number of initiatives in cooperation with United Nations bodies or specialized agencies, including participation in seminars it sponsored, to which UNESCO contributed partial funding. In November 2007, the Association organized a seminar in Mexico City on risk and investigative journalism. The principal objectives of the seminar were to contribute to reducing the risks faced by journalists in their daily tasks, to develop awareness regarding the impunity with respect to crimes against journalists and to provide investigative

journalists with up-to-date knowledge about investigative techniques through an exchange of experiences with experts. A total of 45 journalists representing newspapers from Mexico, Central and South America participated in the event. The seminar was made possible owing to partial financial support provided by the UNESCO office in San Jose. A similar seminar was held in Guatemala City in November 2008, where issues regarding the crime of money-laundering were covered in addition to the aforementioned subjects. In 1997, the General Conference of UNESCO adopted a resolution condemning violence against journalists. It aims at sensitizing Governments, international and regional organizations on this matter and thus tries to fight against the existing culture of impunity, which is one of the Association's principal campaigns.

## B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The objectives of the Association were aligned with certain aspects of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, in particular because of its regional emphasis in less developed areas, such as Central and South America, its promotion of education as a fundamental right and its emphasis on improving the quality of education, in particular children's education, through the "newspaper in education" programme and the annual granting of awards and scholarships for outstanding work in journalism and in support of students in need. The Association scheduled its semi-annual meetings in such a way that half of the meetings were held in Central or South America, or the Caribbean region. The meetings contributed to the local economies of less developed countries, while at the same time raising awareness of local needs and issues, which were then reflected back home in the newspapers represented by the approximately 450 delegates that attended the meetings. The Association, through its annual awards programme, recognized excellence in journalism among representatives of over 33 nations that submit applications annually.

It worked with UNESCO to promote the free flow of ideas and universal access to information, as well as freedom of expression, of the press and of independence of media. It was also represented at numerous United Nations/UNESCO activities through its membership in the World Press Freedom Committee. The Association is recognized as the leading press freedom organization in the Americas and as such it has participated in all relevant international and regional debates on freedom of expression and of the press since the 1950s. Over the years, the organization has gained from its participation in United Nations programmes. The Association's support has been consistent and it is extremely interested in maintaining its consultative status.

# 4. Migrants Rights International

**Special, 2001**

## I. Introduction

### Aims and purposes of the organization

Migrants Rights International was founded as the International Migrants Rights Watch Committee in Cairo in September 1994, at the time of the United Nations International Conference on Population and Development. It was created to serve as an independent expert international human rights monitoring body focusing on migrants. Its objectives are to (a) promote the recognition and respect for the human rights of all migrants and members of their families; (b) advocate for the universal ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; (c) facilitate the work of migrant associations and other NGOs in advocating for migrants' rights; and (d) monitor trends and developments of migrants' rights and welfare.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Migrants Rights International participated in numerous meetings and activities, including: the second session of the United Nations Committee on Migrant Workers, held in Geneva in April 2005; the sixty-first annual regular session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, held in Geneva in April 2005; the Global Commission on International Migration, held in Mexico City in May 2005; the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on international migration and development in 2005. The Migrants Rights International submitted comments concerning the application of a rights-based framework and the inclusion of civil society actors; the United Nations Committee on Migrant Workers, held in Geneva in December 2005; the preparatory hearing for the United Nations High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development, held in New York in March 2006; the first session of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva in 2006.

Members of the organization's steering committee observed the opening ceremonies and hosted a side event at the Palais des Nations in Geneva; Migrants Rights International organized a delegation of migrant groups to meet with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants. In addition, it submitted comments on the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on international migration and development; the International Symposium on International Migration and Development, held in Turin, Italy, in June 2006; the panel discussion on international migration and development, held in Geneva in July 2006; the informal interactive civil society hearings, held at United Nations Headquarters in July 2006; the United Nations High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York in September 2006; the Global Community Dialogue on Migration, Development and Human Rights, held in New

York in September 2006; in April 2007, Migrants Rights International members provided assistance to the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants in his investigative visit to the United States; the seventh session of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva in March 2008; members of the Migrants Rights International steering committee met with staff from the United Nations Committee on Migrant Workers in Geneva in March 2008; the panel on "Human rights perspectives in the global forum on migration and development", held in Geneva in September 2008; the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 21 April to 2 May 2008; the civil society preparatory meetings for the Durban Review process in 2009; the global campaign for ratification of the migrant workers convention, held in Geneva.

## B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

In September 2007 (Brussels) and November 2008 (Manila), Migrants Rights International coordinated with national and international partners to advocate for human rights in intergovernmental deliberations through the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

International Migrants Day, 18 December, in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008: Migrants Rights International and its affiliates promoted and organized numerous activities in their respective global regions to commemorate the Day.

# 5. Triglav Circle

**Special, 2001**

## I. Introduction

### Aims and purposes of the organization

The Triglav Circle was created in the context of the United Nations World Summit for Social Development, convened in Copenhagen in March 1995. In preparation for the event, the Secretariat had organized in Bled, Slovenia, in October 1994, a seminar on ethical and spiritual dimensions of social progress, and a number of participants decided to pursue their reflection through a non-profit organization. "Triglav", or "three-headed god" is the name of the mountain at the base of which the seminar took place. The objective of the Triglav Circle is to contribute to the implementation of the promises and ideals expressed by the Summit and related United Nations undertakings, notably the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

The Circle strives for more humane progress, while preserving the noble and diversified heritage of humanity and the integrity of the natural environment. It seeks to define and promote the common good of humankind through reflection, research and dialogue. It shares these goals with the United Nations. It carries on its work through seminars, research and collaboration with national and international institutions. Its members are from different parts of the world and different walks of life. The discussions of the Circle are summarized in reports circulated to members, to participants in its gatherings and to a wider public audience. It maintains a website where its activities, reports and papers are disseminated to the general public. In the United Nations, the Circle participates regularly in the annual meetings of the Commission for Social Development. It also maintains active links with other NGOs sharing its concerns.

During the period under review (2005-2008), the only significant change in the modalities of operation of the Triglav Circle has been a greater diversification of the geographical distribution of its activities.

It held gatherings at the Harvard-Yenching Institute in February and December 2005 and in January 2007, as well as at the Harvard Business School in May 2008. The Circle has met regularly in Ougny, France, since the summer of 2006.

The Circle met twice at the University of California, Santa Barbara, in March 2006 and in March 2008.

In addition, the Circle collaborated with other international institutions through the organization of several joint seminars.

# II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

## A. Participation in the work of the Commission for Social Development

The Triglav Circle participated in the forty-third (2005), forty-fourth (2006) and forty-fifth sessions of the Commission.

## B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

The Triglav Circle worked essentially with the Commission for Social Development and the Department for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat. It is, however, expanding progressively the scope of its activities to include other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, notably the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission for Sustainable Development, as well as other parts of the Secretariat and of the United Nations system. During the period under review, a member of the Circle worked with the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on a study of social development in the region. In addition, it collaborated with officials from UNESCO when it participated in a meeting on cooperation for social development in the West African region, held in Bamako.

## C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

As the Triglav Circle was created to develop and deepen international understanding of the values that were the foundations for cooperation and development — values that were made particularly explicit by the World Summit for Social Development — its first contribution to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals is to foster agreement on the practical implications of the norms and principles embodied in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which provides the moral, intellectual and political basis of the Goals. The Declaration stresses that States have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level. In particular, through two of its aforementioned gatherings, which included intellectuals and political leaders from China, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America and the Western world, the Circle explored the meaning of human dignity and its relations with social justice. Furthermore, the Declaration proclaims certain fundamental values — freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature, and shared responsibility — to be essential to international relations in the twenty-first century. The Circle paid specific attention to these values in a symposium in Beijing in June 2006 and in its gathering in France in July 2008 on the idea of progress. More directly, through an international exchange of views and ideas, the Circle carried out, during the period under review, activities relevant to Goals 1, 7 and 8.

Goal 1: the findings of the Circle on the reduction of poverty were disseminated through its members, notably those connected to the World Council of Churches.

Goal 7: relevant to environmental sustainability was the debate on simpler lifestyles in affluent countries.

Goal 8: as to "global partnership", the two seminars on the global civil society, co-organized by the Circle, formulated guidelines for mutually supportive relationships between the public and the private sectors.

## D. Activities in support of global principles

The subjects of the meetings and seminars organized by the Triglav Circle are directly or indirectly related to the activities of the United Nations pertaining to the promotion of "social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom", as proclaimed in the preamble to the Charter of the United Nations. Reports on all these activities may be found on the Circle website: www.triglavcircleonline.org. Articles in support of global principles written by members of the Circle are also posted on the website.

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# Economic and Social Council

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## Quadrennial reports for the period 2005-2008 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General**

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# 1. African Women's Association

**Special, 2005**

## I. Introduction

African Women's Association is a non-governmental, non-partisan, and non-profit women's organization, founded on 22 March 1990 as a grassroots women's association. The revision of its charter by the Special General Assembly of June 1998, which converted it into an organization for supporting women's activities, endowed it with full powers to address the concerns of the populations it works with. That reform was not gratuitous. Rather it was the result of the active participation of the Association's members in the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women, in Beijing in 1995, and the Fifth African Regional Conference on Women, in Dakar in 1994.

Thus, since that reorientation of its activities, the organization has steadfastly committed itself to promoting and defending the rights of women and children, wherever such work is needed. Above all, it has done so in keeping with the 12 areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action and with a view to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

In 2004, the General Assembly adopted resolutions providing for the geographical deployment of the organisation throughout the Cameroonian national territory and for the opening of a representation branch in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Presently, three national branches are operational, specializing, based on local circumstances and needs, in the promotion and defence of the rights of women and children: (a) the East Cameroon branch devotes itself exclusively to community development and the fight against HIV/AIDS; (b) the South-West Cameroon branch focuses on combating the trafficking and prostitution of girls (*traffic et traite*) and domestic exploitation of child labour, as well as on community development; (c) the Central Cameroon branch, which is housed at the organization's headquarters, actively promotes and defends the rights of women and children, especially by combating the prostitution and trafficking of girls, strengthening women's social and economic capabilities, preventing child abuse, and fighting AIDS.

The achievement of special consultative status in 2005 endowed the movement with genuine credibility vis-à-vis partners and led to the signing of local and international memorandums of understanding for carrying out projects and programmes.

**The fact that the organization is now better known has helped it join such groups and networks as:**

(a) The regional network of action groups against child work and trafficking in Central and West Africa.

(b) The Group of approved non-governmental organizations in Cameroon;

(c) The Group of non-governmental organizations combating the exploitation of child domestic labour;

(d) The network of organizations supporting urban development in Cameroon;

(e) The network of associations combating violence against women.

## II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In order to fully participate in the work of the United Nations, the organization has committed to carrying out activities related to the work of the Economic and Social Council and to attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, especially goals 1, 2, 3 and 6.

**Activities related to the Economic and Social Council**

February/March 2005 – As a prelude to participation in the 49th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, in New York: organization of a working group to review Beijing + 10; of a review forum; and of the report reviewing Cameroonian women's civil society organizations

8 March 2006 – Organization of activities related to the celebration of International Women's Day (civic training and education workshops)

June 2006 – Celebration of the International Day of the African Child with the children of refugee families living in Cameroon

February/March 2007 – Participation of two members of the non-governmental organization in the work of the 51st session of the Commission on the Status of Women, in New York

May 2007 – Participation in the General Assembly of the regional network of action groups against child domestic work in Benin.

June 2007 – United Nations Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa, Yaoundé, workshop to reflect on trafficking in girls

6 November 2007 – Communication on the subject of women and poverty to a conference on human rights and poverty, organized by the United Nations Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa in Yaoundé. The organization is registered as having expertise in transitional justice in the database of the United Nations Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa

2007 – Participation in several fundraising campaigns of the Committee Responsible for Non-Governmental Organizations and other members of the United Nations System

February/March 2008 – Participation by four members of the organization in the work of the 52nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

November 2008, Libreville – Consultant at the workshop organized by the United Nations Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa and the Economic Commission for Central Africa on the exploitation of child domestic labour in Central Africa and Cameroon

Participation in 10 days of activities against violence against women

November 2008 – Organization of a subregional workshop on human rights and peace

**Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals**

Goal 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger:

Community development master programme put in place in eight villages in (East) Cameroon;

Execution of a programme to support socio-economic activities of rural and urban women refugees;

Programme to strengthen women's planned parenthood capabilities and the citizenship rights of their children;

Goal 3 – Promote gender equality and empower women:

Combating the prostitution and trafficking of girls: repatriation and reintegration;

Combating the exploitation of child domestic labour;

Prevention of child abuse;

Violence against women.

Goal 6 – Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases:

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

Strengthening the capacity of community grassroots organizations to respond to the needs of orphans and vulnerable children in the 5th arrondissement of Yaoundé;

Programme to provide psycho-social, medical, and economic support to persons living with HIV or AIDS and orphans and vulnerable children in the arrondissement of Messamena (East Cameroon).

**Publications**

Brief compilation of texts on the rights of the child – 2007

Comic strip on the fight against trafficking and prostitution of children and the exploitation of child domestic work

Guide to employment opportunities for women victims of trafficking and prostitution – for repatriation and reintegration in Cameroon

## 2. Centre africain de recherche industrielle

**Special, 2001**

## I. Introduction

The Centre africain de recherche industrielle (CARI) is a learned society founded in March. Its goal is to orient the actions of development agents toward progress by promoting scientific thought and teachings. Our principal objectives are: to provide civic education for the population, promote a culture of good governance and integrity in the management of development, produce scientific and

technical works, conduct conferences, strengthen the capabilities of development agents in matters to do with ethics and professional codes of conduct, promote community development and combat poverty.

The Centre has decided to step up its research into other areas affecting the lives of the target population, such as human rights, community development, civic education, the advancement of women and gender equality, professional apprenticeship, sustainable development and environmental protection, and the promotion of good governance and ethics.

That has attracted several members, with expertise in the different areas in which the Centre is involved.

The diversification of its areas of intervention has enabled the Centre to join a number of international networks, such as the International Development Law Organization (ILDO), the World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations, the Conserve Africa Foundation, the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relations with the United Nations, and the World Federation of United Nations Associations.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

**Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities**

2006: submission of a communication on the right to a fair trial in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the 62nd session of the Commission on Human Rights, in Geneva.

2007: (a) 15th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, from 30 April to 11 May, in New York, on the subjects of: atmosphere and air pollution, climate change and energy for sustainable development; (b) submission of a summary to the Commission on Sustainable Development on the subject of a sustainable development strategy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; deforestation in the vicinity of large towns.

2008: submission of several written contributions and participation in a number of conferences.

**Initiative undertaken in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Establishment in 2008 of the Millennium Cultural Centre in the Congo

Goal 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger:

**Target**: Reduce the proportion of people suffering from hunger in the districts on the outskirts of Kinshasa: Kindele, Kisenso, Mbanza-Lemba, Cogelos. **Action:** Distribution of food to unmarried mothers and their children and to widows. Training this target group to engage in income-generating activities; dressmaking, painting and other professional activities.

**Goal 2: achieve universal primary education**

**Target**: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will have a chance to go to school. **Action**: Establish an infant school for children aged 3 to 5

(start-up of teaching: September 2009) and implement a remedial school education programme in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

**Goals 5 and 6: Improve maternal health and combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases**

**Target**: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS. **Action**: Awareness days (conversations about sexual mores) (*causerie morale*) with unmarried mothers, women and widows on the damage done by sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and the virus responsible for AIDS. Establishment of a family planning and health education programme in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

**Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability**

**Target 1**: Integrate the principles of sustainable development in national development policies. **Action**: Production of a scientific study on protection of the crop economy from climate change in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, correction and adjustment of the poverty reduction strategy paper from a sustainable development perspective, published by CARI.

**Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development**

**Action**: Redefine the policy of cooperation with development partners.

## 3. European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages

**Special, 1997**

Participation of EBLUL-France in United Nations Committees (2005-2008)

- 66th session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, February 2005.
- Reports and interventions in the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Geneva), in 2007 and 2008:

  May 2007: EBLUL-France transmits a first alternative report to the periodic report of France on implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Two representatives took part in Geneva in a pre-sessional working group of the Committee;

  9 May 2008 in Geneva: participation and statement by EBLUL-France in the one-day discussion organized by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights regarding definition of the right to take part in cultural life in connection with an optional protocol to be adopted at end-2008.

- Implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities. Talk with the independent expert on minority matters.

  20 September 2007: EBLUL-France file transmitted. Various members of EBLUL-France take part in the Paris meeting.

• Participation in the first session of the World Forum on Minority Issues of the Human Rights Council. On 15 and 16 December 2008, the president of EBLUL-France represented EBLUL-Europe at the Forum in Geneva.

## 4. Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru"

**Special 1997**

## I. Introduction

The "Tupaj Amaru" Indian Movement (a non-governmental indigenous peoples' organization) was accorded special consultative status in 1997 for consultations between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations.

By a decision of the Council, following a recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, the organization was suspended and deprived of its special consultative status from 23 July 2004 to 28 July 2006 because of the complaint filed by the United States of America with the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. The organization has since joined the World Peace Council and has continued to take part in the HRC.

It would therefore be contrary to the spirit of resolution 1996/31 of the Council for the Committee to recommend suspension of a non-governmental organization's consultative statement and, at the same time, require that it submit its quadrennial report. According to its statutes, which are inspired by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the essential goals and objectives of the non-profit association formed to represent indigenous communities are to : ensure protection and promotion of collective and individual rights and fundamental freedoms, especially economic, cultural, civil and political rights; to promote the effective exercise of the rights to land, territory, and permanent sovereignty over natural resources, as well as to the self-determination of the indigenous peoples of the world; to support the right to sustainable development and respect for a healthy environment, in harmony with nature, and to foster legal protection of the cultural heritage of the indigenous peoples; to combat racism and racial discrimination against the indigenous peoples living in precarious conditions, to fight colonialism in all its forms and manifestations and to combat any incitement to hate, violence and terrorism; to safeguard peace and international security, to protest all war and condemn any aggression against developing countries, as well as colonial occupation; and to implement rural development projects aimed at contributing to the eradication of extreme poverty, organize round table discussions and seminars, publish testimony and information and disseminate the ideals of the United Nations within the framework of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples.

## II. Contribution to the work of the Commission and the Human Rights Council and their subsidiary entities

True to its statutory principles, the organization played an active part in the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary organs until the Commission's

dissolution in 2005. Since the Human Rights Council was established by General Assembly resolution 60/251, the organization has played an active part in the Council and its subsidiary entities, as well as at international conferences and United Nations forums, making constructive contributions to the their work.

Oral presentations in plenary session on: the right to self-determination of counter-terrorism (March 2005); the indigenous peoples issue, the negotiations process for the Declaration (April 2005); the blockade against Cuba and human rights violations (March 2005); civil and political rights and freedom of expression (April 2005).

On 6 April 2005, the organization mailed to the Chair of the 61st session of the Commission on Human Rights the draft decision on the procedure for reviewing the draft Declaration of the United Nations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples..

Written contributions: draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples and resolution adopted by the indigenous peoples' organizations substantiating the contributions and amendments to the draft declaration by the "Tupaj Amaru" Indian Movement (see CN.4/2005/NGO/351, 62nd session of the Commission on Human Rights).

Oral statement: right to self-determination and preventive war against the axis of evil. From then on, the Human Rights Council devoted its attention to procedural reorganization sessions in light of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 60/251 and the transition process from the Commission to Human Rights Council.

**First session of the Human Rights Council**

Contribution, introduction and amendments to the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This paper, which summarizes 11 years of participation in and contributions to the working group to examine the draft declaration, was published with the classification A/HRC/1/NGO/1.

**Second session of the Human Rights Council**

Oral statements: racism and discrimination in the counter-terrorism framework (March 2006); legal framework for regulating the activities of transnational corporations (September 2006); reform of the United Nations' financial institutions (September 2006); on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation in Cuba [inter-active dialogue (25 September 2009)].

**Third session of the Human Rights Council**

Oral statements: indigenous issue regarding the right to collective ownership and to land and demilitarization of the lands and territories of the world's indigenous peoples.

**Fourth session of the Human Rights Council**

Written statement: racial discrimination against racial minorities in Japan. Inter-active dialogues on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (March 2007); freedom of expression and opinion (March 2007); the indigenous issue (March 2007). The letter of 26 March 2006 was addressed to the

President of the Human Rights Council regarding the prolonged detention of five Cubans in the United States of America. Written communication: report in Russian on the organization's activities in the Sahka (Yakoutia) Republic, in northern Russia, within the framework of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples (see A/HRC/4/NGO/143).

**Fifth session of the Human Rights Council**

Written statements: the indigenous issue; need for a mechanism on the faiths of indigenous peoples (September 2007); arbitrary detention in Guantanamo (September 2007); the occupied Palestinian territories (September 2007).In 2007, the organization wrote to the President of the Human Rights Council, submitting a draft on the establishment of a body for indigenous peoples.

Written communications: Declaration of Azángaro (Peru) and testimony on water contamination. Through resolutions, the indigenous communities have taken the decision to examine and adopt their own declaration based on the alternative text of the Tupaj Amaru Indian Movement. These documents have been published under the classifications A/HRC/6/NGO/3 and A/HRC/6/NGO/4.

**Sixth session of the Human Rights Council**

Oral presentations: economic, social and cultural rights (December 2007); the occupied Palestinian territories (December 2007); the human rights situation in Darfur (December 2007).

Participation in the meeting of consultation regarding the establishment of a mechanism for the indigenous peoples, its mandate, composition, and prerogatives.

Written contributions: proposals for the establishment of a mechanism for the indigenous peoples, its mandate, composition and prerogatives, published with the classification A/HRC/6/NGO/50.

**Seventh session of the Human Rights Council**

Oral statements: freedom of conscience and of political opinion (March 2008); independence of judges and attorneys (March 2008).

**Eighth session of the Human Rights Council**

Oral statements: the energy, financial and food crisis and multinational enterprises (June 2008); extreme poverty and the unjust distribution of wealth (June 2008); on the Palestine issue resolutions (June 2008); the right to housing.

Special sessions of the Human Rights Council: the organization has played an active part and made oral contributions to the work of the special sessions on: the Palestine issue, the situation in Lebanon, the human rights situation in Darfur and the food crisis.

**Participation in sessions of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights**

Oral statement: interpretation of Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations and military occupation; the situation in Palestine and in Lebanon. The

organization took part in the session of the Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Council, held in 2008.

Written declarations: right to food; promotion of a more democratic and just international order; and the food crisis. Participation in the working group on indigenous populations established by resolution 1982/34 of the Economic and Social Council, with a mandate to review promotion of indigenous rights.

**Twenty-third session of the working group on indigenous populations (July 2005)**

Oral statements: changing legal provisions, the effective right to land and its natural resources (July 2005).

Written declaration on the documents of the working group (see E/CN.4/Sub./AC/2005/CRP. 2 to 5).

**Twenty-fourth session of the working group on indigenous populations (2006)**

Oral statements: militarization of the lands and territories of the indigenous peoples (August 2006); self-determination of peoples in international law (August 2006). Participation in sessions of the working group established by resolution 1995/32 of the Commission.

**Eleventh session of the working group**

The organization submitted its constructive contributions and amendments to the last session of the working group (see E/CN.4/2005/89/Add.1, E/CN.4/2005/WG15/CRP.5 and A/HRC/1/NGO/1). These documents summarize the major substantive proposals put forward over 11 years, with a view to making the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples more consistent with international standards.

**Participation in United Nations Conferences**

World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, the Durban Review Conference; activities in connection with the International Decade of the Indigenous Peoples.

**Conclusion**

The organization operates with complete transparency and expresses itself freely and independently, while adhering to the rules of conduct established by resolution 1996/31 of the Council. The Committee is requested to take into consideration that the organization has contributed enormously to the work of the Council and its subsidiary entities without ever having received subsidies, voluntary contribution funds, or financial support from any source whatsoever.

# 5. International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples

**Special, 1953**

## I. Introduction

The International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples is a federation of organizations and persons involved in the promotion of understanding, dialogue and cooperation among races, peoples, and cultural groups, in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Movement works to disseminate training and information on human rights, does advocacy and lobbying in international institutions and organizes meetings and seminars in line with the objectives of the organization. Its priorities are the struggle against all forms of exclusion and racism and protection of the most vulnerable, in particular women, children, indigenous people, minorities and migrants. The Movement is a member of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations.

Since the headquarters of the organization moved from Geneva to Brussels in 2005, its statutes have had to be re-written to conform to Belgian laws. However, the objectives and *raison d'être* of the Movement remain unchanged.

## II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

**Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities**

**2005**: Geneva – 61st session of the Commission on Human Rights (14 March-22 April) and 57th session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (25 July-12 August).

At its General Assembly in September 2005, the Movement organized a day of reflection on two subjects: the reform of human rights mechanisms at the United Nations and the role of non-governmental organizations in the current international scenario. A member of the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights had been invited to give a presentation.

**2006**: Geneva – participation in the second session of the Human Rights Council (18 September-6 October, 27-29 November) and in its third session (29 November-8 December)

**2007**: Geneva – participation in the fourth, fifth and sixth sessions of the Human Rights Council. At this last session, the Movement associated itself with a joint written statement on "The Right to Human Security as a Component of the Human Right to Peace: An approach to Terrorism."

New York – the Movement took part in the 51st session of the Commission on the Status of Women (26 February-9 March), while at the same time attending activities organized by the Working Group of NGOs on the situation of girls, of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), to which the Movement is a party.

**2008**: Geneva – seventh (3-28 March), eighth (2-18 June) and ninth (8-24 September) sessions of the Human Rights Council. The Movement also attended the second session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group (5-16 May).

New York – participation in the 52nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (25 February–7 March), while continuing its participation in parallel activities relating to discrimination against girls.

On the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Man, the Movement took part in the Conference organized in Paris by the Department of Information of the United Nations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the French Government.

The main points of the meetings in which the Movement takes part and the resolutions on matters of interest to the organization are the subject of articles and analyses in the UFER Bulletin, published twice a year. This bulletin directed at the Movement's members is also posted on the Movement's website: www.ufer-international.org.

Being an organization run by volunteers, UFER cannot participate as actively as it would like to in the meetings of the Economic and Social Council dealing with issues within its sphere of competence. It attempts, nevertheless, thanks to the United Nations website and the networks to which it belongs, to keep abreast of developments, in order to intervene at the appropriate moment, often together with other organizations.

**Activities in line with the Millennium Development**

**Goal 2**: Achieve universal primary education. In Cambodia, the objective of our pre-school education programme is to help children from underprivileged environments, most of whom are of Vietnamese origin, to become better integrated into the Cambodian education system, and to give them, and Khmer children, the chance to live in harmony with each other. Today, this programme reaches approximately 200 children and emphasizes development of language, cognitive reasoning, sensory faculties and social skills. Children also receive a meal every day. The programme also ensures that teachers are trained.

## 6. World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations

**Special, 1985**

## Introduction

The World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres & Associations is a non-governmental organization whose objective is to consolidate the ideals of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through civil society's direct participation all over the world. The World Federation, which is the only non-governmental organization to carry the name UNESCO, pursues the

objectives and goals of the Organization, that is to say the achievement of peace by promoting education, science and culture.

By coordinating the activities of national federations of UNESCO associations, centres and clubs all over the world, the World Federation lends its support to the activities of those federations by organizing training seminars, sharing best practices and safeguarding respect for UNESCO ideals

In order to revive the World Federation and enable it to continue to promote peace by disseminating UNESCO ideals, the Federation's charter was revised and new statutes adopted at the General Conference held in July 2005, at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

The Seventh World Congress of the World Federation, which took place in Athens from 11 to 13 July, 2007, hosted by the Hellenic National Commission for UNESCO, embarked on a new era of revival and adopted the 2007-2011 Plan of Action. Indeed, inspired by the recommendations adopted by delegates, this Plan of Action revolves around the following objectives: provide additional training for the managers of the national federations and clubs; disseminate and circulate information between the World Federation and its partners; participate in international events organized by United Nations agencies; establish an atmosphere of trust with UNESCO and the national commissions; encourage the financial autonomy of the World Federation; foster solidarity between the countries of the North and those of the South with respect to UNESCO's priority areas.

The partnership between UNESCO and the World Federation materialized in the form of a cooperation agreement (objectives contract), approved, in September 2007, by UNESCO's Executive Board. That agreement revived formal ties between UNESCO and the World Federation for a six-year term.

Thanks to that association agreement, the World Federation enjoys a privileged status vis-à-vis UNESCO. It enjoys NGO status vis-à-vis UNESCO, which enables it to have an office in the NGOs House at UNESCO headquarters (rue Miollis, Paris) and the World Federation's projects are frequently financed out of the UNESCO budget.

During the 2007 World Congress, after discussion and review of the files, and at the behest of the Executive Board of the World Federation, the UNESCO Youth Association club of Estonia, the Porto UNESCO club in Portugal and the UNESCO club of Kazakhstan were admitted as correspondent members of the World Federation. In fact, more than 70 countries are active members of the World Federation.

In this period (2005-2008), the World Federation worked to consolidate the seats of the UNESCO clubs movement in several parts of the world by establishing regional federations, Two new Federations have arisen, namely: (a) the Arab Federation of UNESCO Clubs (May 2005); and (b) the Latin American and Caribbean Federation of UNESCO Clubs (June 2008). These regional federations serve to coordinate and build consensus among national federations during execution of inter-regional projects.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Participation in the International Civil Society Forum: UNESCO partners, on 25 October 2007, UNESCO, Paris. Our participation in the Forum emphasized the

role of UNESCO associations, centres and clubs in promoting the ideals of peace and the involvement of citizens in actions aimed at enhancing their living conditions and achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Indeed, by strengthening partnership and the exchange of best practices, the World Federation helps to forge a culture of exchange and dialogue among cultures.

Participation in the 61st annual Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations working with the United Nations Information Department, held at UNESCO headquarters from 3-5 September, 2008. The Conference was entitled "Reaffirming Human Rights for All: the Universal Declaration at 60." On that occasion, the Secretary General of the World Federation took part in the work of workshops organized alongside that Conference.

Organization of the European Meeting of UNESCO human rights clubs from 10-13 December, 2008, celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in collaboration with the French Federation of UNESCO Clubs and the European Federation of UNESCO Associations and Clubs. The purpose of the event was to be receptive to young people's views on human rights.

Launching of organizational preparations for the World Forum of UNESCO Clubs on the subject of "World Heritage and Peace", which took place in Alexandria (Egypt) in July 2009. This event will be organized pursuant to the recommendations adopted by the 27th session of the Executive Board of the World Federation, held in Yekaterinburg (Russian Federation) from 14-20 August 2008. The Forum will focus on the correlation between world peace and the preservation of world heritage sites. Several experts in the subject, representatives of the regional federations of UNESCO clubs, and young people from UNESCO associations and clubs all over the world will help trigger in-depth consideration of this issue.

In close collaboration with the Arab Federation of UNESCO Clubs and the Tunisian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, since 2008 the World Federation has been busy organizing, for 2009, in Kairouan (Tunisia), an International Forum of UNESCO Clubs to address the subject of sustainable heritage, during the festivities of "Kairouan, the capital of Islamic culture."

The World Federation contributed to the launching, in Mali, in December 2008, of a series of cultural events organized in Africa on the theme "Mandela challenge."

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# Quadrennial reports for the period 2005-2008 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General**

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# 1. Council on Economic Priorities

**Special, 1997**

## I. Introduction

The Council on Economic Priorities, now known as Social Accountability International, is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving workplaces and communities by developing and implementing social responsibility standards. The organization brings together companies, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and governments to conduct research training and technical assistance programmes It works with international brands and retailers, including Chiquita, Dole, Gap, Timberland and Gucci, various trade unions representing over 15 million workers, and such non-governmental organizations as Rainforest Alliance, the World Wildlife Fund and CARE. The organization partners with a global network of auditing groups known as "certification bodies", which certify companies and production facilities to the Social Accountability 8000 standard. Developed and overseen by the organization, the SA8000 is a leading standard that incorporates third-party monitoring and innovative management systems. It is based on International Labour Organization (ILO) and United Nations conventions and incorporates strict principles relating to human rights in the workplace. As a voluntary standard, Social Accountability 8000 provides a sustainable framework for improved social performance that is robust but flexible and pragmatic.

The organization operates globally, with offices in China, Brazil, India, Nicaragua, the Netherlands and the United States of America. During the reporting period, funding grew by 55 per cent. The number of donors also increased significantly with corporations, individuals, foundations and government agencies providing income streams. The organization signed memorandums of understanding or established joint programmes with the Business Social Compliance Initiative, the Ethical Trading Initiative and the International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling Alliance.

## II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization participated in a variety of United Nations meetings, including those of the Council. It also attended a briefing session on forced labour and a workshop organized by ILO.

### B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The organization prepared or contributed to research papers and studies, co-sponsored meetings and carried out humanitarian activities or operational projects. For example, it conducted case studies on the use, by participants in the

United Nations Global Compact, of the SA8000 standard, as a tool for implementing labour rights commitments.

## C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization contributed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Central America, South America, Africa and Asia. Major actions undertaken were the following:

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; target 2: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people. The organization's implementation of labour rights and wage standards, as defined in the SA8000 standard, covers over 1 million workers in over 1,850 certified facilities in 66 countries.

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women; target 1: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than by 2015. The promotion of the SA8000 standard in the garment industry, where 80 per cent of the workers are women, ensures that women are protected from discriminatory practices within the workplace and promotes stability for their families.

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability; target 1: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources. The organization's work in agriculture in China and Central America (Nicaragua, Honduras and the Dominican Republic) assists in the implementation of sustainable organic farming of such crops as cotton, sugar cane, melons and coffee. In China, the "Made By China" programme is a joint initiative launched by the organization and the Netherlands-based international network "Solidaridad". The main objectives of the joint project are to bring global markets directly to smallholder cotton farmers and to facilitate the setup of a vertical apparel chain compliant with the socially responsible SA8000 standard. In Central America, the organization's "Project Cultivar" aims to increase the capacity of employers, workers, trade unions and government ministries to develop a culture of compliance with national and international labour laws.

Target 2: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss. The organization works with the World Wildlife Fund on the development of integrated environmental and social standards in aquaculture. The Fund works with farmers, retailers, non-governmental organizations, scientists and other aquaculture industry stakeholders worldwide to develop standards for responsible aquaculture. The organization contributed to the development of the standard for responsible tilapia production and is preparing to participate in multi-stakeholder dialogues on other species, starting with the pangasius fish in Viet Nam.

## 2. Crime Stoppers International

**Special, 2005**

## I. Introduction

The mission of Crime Stoppers International is to create a safe and secure world for our children and grandchildren by helping to stop, solve and prevent crime. To that end, it establishes community-operated crime stoppers programmes comprised of three parts: a local board of directors that raises funds to pay rewards for tips, a police coordinator who receives the tips from the crime stoppers anonymous tips line and the media who broadcast and print the weekly "crime of the week" or the "most wanted" announcements and re-enactments. Each component works with the local business community and citizens to build public awareness of the use and availability of the anonymous crime stoppers system.

Since acquiring special consultative status in 2005, Crime Stoppers International has launched new Crime Stoppers programmes in Hyderabad, India (March 2007), Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda and the United States Virgin Islands (2008). It is currently working with the Netherlands police and other agencies to assess the feasibility of beginning a programme in Nigeria; the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region has made enquiries about setting up a Crime Stoppers programme there.

The president of the organization has been instrumentally involved with representatives from the Government of Mexico and local businessmen to set up a Crime Stoppers programme in a particular region of Mexico.

## II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, Crime Stoppers International met frequently with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs. The Office views Crime Stoppers as a valuable tool for global communications and logistics in regional projects and recognizes its important role in combating organized crime. Crime Stoppers is a proven method of securing intelligence and a useful aid in the law enforcement investigation process.

In February 2008, the organization participated in a forum in Vienna organized under the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking. Throughout 2008, Crime Stoppers programmes in both the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Canada helped to increase overall awareness of the issue of human trafficking and extended their tip networks to identify human trafficking activity. In August 2008, a meeting on human trafficking was held at the Crime Stoppers International training conference in Des Moines, Iowa, at which senior law enforcement representatives from the United States Marshals Service, the United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police made presentations on human trafficking and the efforts being made in their countries to deal with the issue. An actual survivor of human trafficking spoke about what had happened to him while under the control of a trafficker. His presentation highlighted the need for organizations such as the United Nations and Crime Stoppers

International to continue to work together to combat this human atrocity. At the conference Crime Stoppers programmes from around the world confirmed their commitment to promoting the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children.

## 3. English International Association of Lund (Sweden)

**Special, 1997**

## I. Introduction

The aim of the English International Association of Lund is to promote the human right to peace, development, non-discrimination and equality, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all subsequent conventions and protocols.

## II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

During the period 2005-2008, the organization gradually became more focused on the work of the Council and the Millennium Development Goals. Activities included the expansion of its strategies to promote democracy, equality, justice and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa; the publication of studies on the Goals; participation in a number of Council conferences and a session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in Geneva in 2008; and the publication of brochures on the rights of migrant workers, as called for in the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and the Members of Their Families. Scarcity of funds remained one big challenge that hindered more participation by EIA representatives in Economic and Social Council meetings and events.

### B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The organization continued its cooperation with the Department of Public Information and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. During the reporting period, it participated in the annual International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (21 March); maintained communication with a number of national and international non-governmental organizations involved in the protection of migrant workers; upgraded information on Swedish and international human rights laws protecting all persons from discrimination, in accordance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; attended education sessions arranged by the migration studies department of Malmö University (Sweden), the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at Lund University, the European Network against Racism and the office of the Swedish Ombudsman against Ethnic Discrimination; and conducted study groups on the protection of the human rights of migrant workers.

The organization adopted a five-year plan to expand its human rights information, education and assistance programmes to include other vulnerable groups. The plan includes the monitoring of the Swedish national plan for human rights (2006-2009) and the examination of Sweden's and other States' reports to the human rights monitoring bodies of the United Nations, ILO and regional instruments.

## C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1: With respect to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa, the organization focused on researching the phenomenon of African migration within and beyond the continent and held seminars and conferences on solutions to the problem of poverty in Africa. It also published a number of books on the protection of migrant workers' rights.

## 4. Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education*

**Special, 1997**

## I. Introduction

Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education works to advance democracy, human development, peace and social justice through human rights education programmes. Established in 1967 by an eminent group of Canadian scholars and jurists, Equitas is a non-profit, non-governmental organization incorporated under the laws of Canada. In 2005, the Board of Directors approved a change of name from the Fondation canadienne des droits de la personne to Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education. The name change did not imply a change of mission or vision or a new direction for the organization's programmes. On 5 June 2008, the Economic and Social Council Committee on NGOs took note of the name change.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Equitas sent representatives to the 2005, 2006 and 2007 annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women. In October 2008, its director attended a forum on civic partnership for citizenship and human rights education, which was organized by the Council of Europe in collaboration with OHCHR in Strasbourg.

### B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

(a) Ongoing collaboration with OHCHR on the organization's annual international human rights training programme in Montreal, 2005-2008;

(b) Organization, with OHCHR, of an international human rights education evaluation symposium in Montreal, May 2007;

(c) Technical assistance to OHCHR on the development of a self-assessment tool for Governments regarding human rights education in the school system, 2008;

(d) Project with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Nepal, on building the capacity of the national human rights commission, 2003-2006;

(e) Collaboration with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, in the organization of two consultations for civil society in the former Soviet Union, one in Central Asia in 2006 and one in the southern Caucasus in 2007.

* Formerly Fondation canadienne des droits de la personne.

## C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

All the organization's training and capacity-building programmes provided tools to enable people to participate in decision-making processes that affect development in their communities.

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women. The organization's training sessions raised awareness about gender issues and helped to develop tools that fight gender discrimination. Gender equality is a cross-cutting theme in all its training programmes and specific modules.

With respect to other conferences and events, the organization's director of education helped to implement a project on education and promoting respect and diversity, which was organized by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The director served as a member of an experts group, whose task was to assess information and materials on intercultural, human rights and tolerance education received from OSCE participating States and to develop recommendations covering strategic and structural aspects of public education for education authorities in the OSCE region.

## 5. Navjyoti: Delhi Police Foundation for Correction, De-Addiction and Rehabilitation

**Special, 1997**

# I. Introduction

The Foundation is a voluntary organization whose vision is to challenge social inequalities and empower the vulnerable by enabling them to help themselves. The Foundation reaches 10,000 beneficiaries every day through child education, women's empowerment, health care, drug de-addiction and counselling. During the reporting period, it began to promote solar energy in rural areas, with the help of universities and institutions, in an effort to address issues related to climate change. It also initiated the use of vermicompost, or composting utilizing various species of worms, in the rural community. In the area of health care, the organization started to work on maternal and child heath care, in order to raise awareness of health issues among community members.

# II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

## A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization participated in the Business for the Environment Global Summit on environmental issues held in Singapore in April 2008. It presented its environmental projects and highlighted its experience working with companies to tackle climate change and other environmental issues.

## B. Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals

To improve the learning levels of children, the organization worked with municipal primary schools to improve performance in the higher grades (Goal 2). It also initiated a maternal and child health-care project to enhance knowledge and skills relating to maternal and child health issues in the poor urban population (Goal 5). To sensitize and mobilize the community against HIV/AIDS, a project was initiated to spread awareness about the disease in the community (Goal 6).

Every year, the organization observes International Women's Day, World Water Day, World Health Day, World Environment Day, International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, International Literacy Day and World AIDS Day.

# 6. Zonta International

**General, 1969**

## I. Introduction

Zonta International is a worldwide service organization of business executives and professionals working together to advance the status of women. There are currently more than 1,200 Zonta clubs in 67 countries. Zonta International envisions a world in which all women are guaranteed their legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional rights. Zonta International has had general consultative status with the Council since 1995. It also has consultative status with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), ILO and the Council of Europe, and official relations with UNESCO. It is accredited to the Department of Public Information and attends weekly briefings and the annual DPI/NGO conferences. Zonta International has official representatives at United Nations Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Geneva and at Vienna. Its representatives are members and active participants in the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the United Nations (CONGO) as well as the NGO Committees on the Status of Women at each location. They regularly attend the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Human Rights Council, ILO, the Economic and Social Council, UNESCO and the Council of Europe.

In New York, the chair of the Zonta International United Nations Committee is an active leader in non-governmental organization activities to support the goals of the United Nations. She serves as treasurer of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, convener of the NGO Committee on UNIFEM, co-chair of the NGO Committee on UNICEF and chair of the networking committee for the annual DPI/NGO conference. Zonta representatives in New York also attend meetings of the NGO Committee on UNICEF, with special attention to the Working Group on Girls, the NGO Committee on Mental Health, the Third Committee and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

In Vienna, the Zonta International representative focuses on the status of women, trafficking, narcotic drugs and ageing. In Geneva, special areas of interest include human rights, ILO and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. At UNESCO, its representatives work on education issues to promote human rights.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Zonta International seeks to advance the status of women by supporting efforts to prevent violence against women, improve their educational, economic, health and professional conditions, and advocate for the legislation of equal rights for women. Members of Zonta clubs volunteer their time, talents and energy to local and international service projects and advocacy initiatives that are designed to advance the status of women. They commit hundreds of thousands of service hours and

millions of dollars to a wide range of community services that strengthen and improve the well-being of women.

The Zonta International Foundation, Zonta International's philanthropic branch, further supports these efforts by raising and distributing funds for Zonta International programmes. During 2005-2008, it raised more than $5 million to support international programmes and projects worldwide. One of the charitable programmes of Zonta International funded by the Foundation is the "Zonta International strategies to prevent violence against women", which seeks to reduce the incidence of violence against women and girls by awarding grants for projects that seek to change personal and/or political attitudes and behaviour contributing to violence against women. Since the programme's inception in 1996, grants totalling more than $1 million have been awarded to support 33 projects in 20 countries.

Zonta International funded a project on cross-border cooperation to prevent trafficking in women, foster joint work by governmental and non-governmental organizations, and build upon the current efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia as well as previous projects in Serbia and Montenegro. Grants will be made to pairs of communities on either side of the borders joining Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, which will not only encourage non-governmental organizations to work together but also require matching funds from local governments and business.

The organization also helped to fund an initiative of women lawyers in the Niger aimed at building the capacity of judges and medical doctors to ensure the effective implementation of the law on the protection of victims of violence.

In Sri Lanka, it funded a project with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to improve the livelihood of communities affected by the tsunami, by improving the entrepreneurial and technical skills of women engaged in agriculture-based productive activities. In Bolivia, the organization funded an initiative with CARE, giving girls and young women ages 13 to 25 an opportunity to attend night school, in order to improve their status, well-being and opportunities. The project includes a special focus on women's health education, since the formal school curriculum does not adequately address this sensitive topic, as well as vocational training to develop marketable technical skills. The project will reach 1,300 young women. In the Niger, it continued to fund another CARE project that provides microcredit and health education to HIV/AIDS-affected women. Lastly, it gave a grant to a women's learning centre and health clinic in Mir Bacha Kot, Afghanistan, and the Afghan Institute of Learning to provide vocational skills training for approximately 650 women and girls each year in rural or poor urban settings.

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# Quadrennial reports for the period 2005-2008 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General**

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# 1. African Community Resource Centre

**Special, 2005**

## I. Introduction

African Community Resource Centre (ACRC) is a Los Angeles-based non-profit organization committed to assisting and empowering African refugees and immigrants to become economically self-sufficient, acculturated, socialized and healthy. It furnished a range of programmes and emergency, social and referral services, often in collaboration with other community-based organizations, social service providers and health organizations. Its services are available to all people regardless of race.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

(a) Fiftieth and fifty-first sessions of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, in February and March 2006 and 2007, in New York, focusing on African women and children in human trafficking and slavery, and on domestic violence, respectively; and (b) fifty-second session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, in February and March 2008, in New York, focusing on financing for gender equality and empowerment of women.

### B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1: ACRC developed and runs Refugee Safe Haven, a transitional shelter for African women and their children who are victims of domestic violence. It has served such victims from 37 different countries over the past six years.

Goal 3: Through its Healthy African Families Programme, ACRC informs women about the educational opportunities available in the community.

Goal 4: Through the same programme, ACRC informs newly arrived African refugees and immigrants how to access health and mental services, and of their eligibility to obtain social benefits and housing, and disease prevention services.

Goal 5: Also through the same programme, ACRC provides events and classes aimed at informing newly arrived African refugees and immigrants about access to maternal health services etc.

## 2. Aleut International Association

**Special, 2005**

## I. Introduction

Aleut International Association, an Alaskan Native non-profit organization, seeks to establish close ties between the Alaskan and Russian Aleut communities for the protection of their shared environment, the preservation of their cultural heritage and the strengthening of good-neighbour relations.

The Aleut People, or Unangan, currently number approximately 8,000, about one eighth of whom live in the Russian Federation, mostly on the Commander Islands. The fur trade in the middle of the eighteenth century served to decrease their population and forced transmigration during the next century permanently separated their communities and relatives. Today, Aleut people in both countries are uniting in an effort to secure their right to determine their lifestyle, culture and economy.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

AIA representatives attended and participated in the United Nations Climate Change Conference in November and December 2005, in Montreal, Canada, where they emphasized their vulnerability and adaptation to climate change and its impacts.

### B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Together with the United Nations Environment Programme collaborating centre, GRID-Arendal, AIA worked in the period 2007-2008 to establish a community-based monitoring system to track environmental changes in the Bering Sea.

### C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

During 2005: Testing for the presence of persistent organic pollutants in Aleut women and children on the Commander Islands, measuring contaminant levels and following the babies for a year to determine health effects, and conducting a dietary survey of mothers to compile information on contaminants, and identify health benefits of eating traditional foods.

During 2006: Project to produce an annotated, searchable bibliography of Aleut ethnobotany. Also, undertook a two-year project in the period 2006-2007 on climate change-induced paralytic shellfish poisoning in Aleut communities, in which the Aleut communities were educated about the problem and trained to monitor for that toxin, which may be related to climate change.

During 2007: AIA undertook a project among coastal communities for the systematic collection of information about the environment, which may enhance community resilience under conditions of rapid environmental and social change.

# 3. Council of International Programmes

**Special, 1989**

## I. Introduction

The aims of the Council of International Programmes are to promote international understanding through professional development and cross-cultural exchange.

## II. Contributions to the work of the United Nations

Representatives of the Council attended briefings and other activities during this period.

### A. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 2: In 2005, it worked with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to build capacity in selected rural schools in Jamaica, distributing hundreds of children's books, and together with the World Organization for Early Childhood Education organized workshops for school staff. In 2006, it continued that work, and in 2007 and 2008, it organized staff development activities and parent workshops for those rural schools, while continuing to distribute children's books.

### B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

(a) Celebrated children's "Voices for Peace across the Globe" in April 2006, in New York City; (b) children of parents in missions to the United Nations, among others, sang and danced in a special programme in April 2007; (c) it also organized a speaker series to inform members about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Millennium Development Goals; (d) it participated in a UNICEF event on early childhood in September 2008; and (d) attended a speech on research into parent education programmes.

# 4. Generations United

**Special, 2005**

## I. Introduction

Generations United, the oldest and largest organization of its kind, focuses solely on promoting intergenerational strategies, programmes and policies. Representing more than 70 million Americans in 100 international, national, state and local organizations, it advocates the mutual well-being of children, youth and older adults, while serving as a resource for educating policymakers and the public concerning the economic, social and personal imperatives of intergenerational cooperation. It produces publications, maintains a website and database and conducts expert trainings, while furnishing a forum for those working with children, youth and older adults.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

(a) Participated in the forty-fourth session of the United Nations Commission for Social Development, in February 2006, in New York; (b) participated in the Civil Society Forum that examined issues for that session of the Commission and prepared the NGO declaration for the opening session; (c) helped plan and moderate a public seminar on migration in June 2006, in New York; (d) a seminar of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on human rights for young and old in September 2008, in Paris; (e) expert group meeting on intergenerational solidarity, in October 2007, in New York, the paper for which was subsequently published on the United Nations website and will be included in a United Nations publication; (f) annually participates in United Nations Day of Older Persons; and (g) organized an intergenerational photography exhibit.

### Cooperation with United Nations bodies

(a) Authored a chapter on intergenerational programmes and social inclusion of the elderly for a book published in English and Spanish, in 2007, in Spain; and (b) provided many international NGOs with technical assistance on ageing, including a conference in June 2006, in Melbourne, Australia; a conference, in August 2006, in Tokyo, coinciding with the launch of the Japan Intergenerational Unity Network; a symposium in June 2007, in St. Julian's, Malta; and a conference in May 2008, in Hamburg, Germany.

# 5. Hong Kong Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association

**Special, 2001**

## I. Introduction

### A. Aims and objectives of the organization

The Hong Kong Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association, a non-profit organization of Chinese women professionals and entrepreneurs, was established to develop a strong support network, create practical and innovative learning and business opportunities for themselves and others and promote high professional standards.

### B. Changes in the organization

During the period 2005-2008, the Association formed an environmental committee to pursue an environmental protection agenda and it renamed its Business Start-up Committee the Social Enterprise and Business Facilitation Committee, expanding its role of helping needy women to also provide social enterprises in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China with training and facilitation.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1: Following the earthquake in Sichuan Province of China in 2008, the Association sponsored a training of trainers and children programme from May to September 2008 in partnership with the Polytechnic University of Hong Kong. The programme was implemented in two phases: post-trauma counselling of the children affected by the earthquake and a summer activities programme to restore normality to their lives and provide them with learning opportunities as their schools had been destroyed.

Goal 7: An environmental committee was formed in 2008 to build a knowledge base able to respond to the public consultation on air quality.

Goal 3: It organized a number of activities to promote women's equality: an award for outstanding women professionals and entrepreneurs, granted in 2005 and 2008, a triennial event in which successful women tell their own stories in order to inspire others.

## B. Activities in support of global principles

The Association expanded its support of social enterprises starting in 2007 with two full-day training workshops for business managers of social enterprises, focusing on practical best practices for effective management in order to enhance profitability and sustainability. It also organized visits to social enterprises and continued to engage in educational exchange programmes, mainly with counterparts in China. In the previous year it had organized a study visit to southern China, before organizing a trip to Beijing and Chengde, also in 2007.

# 6. International Air Transport Association

**Special, 1949**

## I. Introduction

### Aims and objectives

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is a global trade association for hundreds of scheduled international airline members. The principal offices of IATA are in Geneva and Montreal, Canada, with regional and national offices around the world. Owing to its role in setting and regulating international standards, IATA has been accorded semi-diplomatic status by a number of Governments.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

As an NGO with special consultative status, IATA maintains regular relations with 13 United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, particularly the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and its regional civil aviation commissions. The cooperative links between the two organizations are very deep and detailed owing to the importance and scope of their work.

Even listing just the highlights would be too lengthy for the present report; however, a few specific examples of the Association's participation in major ICAO conferences and events would demonstrate their importance: (a) 36th session of the ICAO Assembly, in September 2007, Montreal, Canada, (b) General Assembly of the Arab Civil Aviation Commission, in May 2007, in Marrakech; (c) ICAO Global Symposium on Air Transport Liberalization, in September 2006, in Dubai; (d) IATA led the Industry Safety Strategy Group in drafting the Global Aviation Safety Roadmap, adopted by the ICAO Council in July 2007 as an integral part of the ICAO Global Aviation Safety Plan which was endorsed by the 35th ICAO Assembly in September 2007; (e) through its membership in the ICAO Dangerous Goods Panel, IATA and ICAO continue to collaborate in the technical review and dissemination of guidance material relating to the safe transport of dangerous goods; (f) it contributes to modernizing the (Rome) Convention on Damage Caused by Foreign Aircraft to Third Parties on the Surface and the Convention on New and Emerging Threats; and (g) as an observer at the meetings of the United Nations Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, IATA participates in working groups tasked with developing standards for the transport of dangerous goods in excepted quantities.

### Cooperation with United Nations bodies

(a) IATA participates as an observer at International Atomic Energy Agency Transport Safety Standards Committee meetings, and provided IAEA with consulting services in a series of workshops regarding the denial of shipments of radioactive materials in June 2007, in Montevideo; and in 2008, in Rome (May), in Arusha (June), in Beijing (June), and in Antananarivo (June); (b) IATA and ICAO collaborated to ensure that the airline industry's interests regarding radio

frequencies and telecommunications are considered in World Radio Conferences; and (c) the Association's Live Animals Regulations and Perishable Cargo Regulations have been adopted globally, as well as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which is administered by the United Nations Environment Programme. These are but a few of the many global standards in which IATA has played a major and continuing role.

# 7. International Association of University Presidents

**Special, 1993**

## I. Introduction

The International Association of University Presidents (IAUP) is an association of chief executive officers from institutions of higher education around the world. It offers a regular forum for such leaders and institutions to identify and discuss major issues and challenges in a global and cross-cultural context.

### A. Aims and purposes

(a) Provide a global vision of higher education; strengthen the international mission of the institutions; (b) promote academic exchange and collaboration; (c) gain a hearing for the voice of educational leaders; (d) promote networking and collaboration among university leaders supporting sustainable development and promote peace and international understanding through education.

### B. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

IAUP works with the United Nations Commission on Disarmament Education, Conflict Resolution and Peace in New York and other places. (a) Its Partners for Peace Programme, in October 2005, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, which was co-sponsored by Holy Family University, featured Muslim and Christian speakers from Palestine and a Jewish speaker from Israel reflecting on the conflict, and sharing experiences, opinions and hopes for peace; (b) IAUP and the United Nations Commission organized another such programme on African voices for peace, in March 2006, in South Africa; (c) IAUP and the Commission held annual spring meetings in April 2005 and 2007; (d) autumn meeting in December 2007; (e) XVth Triennial Conference of IAUP, in September and October, in Chile; (f) autumn meeting in December 2008 in New York, all of which meetings were held in cooperation with various universities and supported in part by UNESCO.

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## Note by the Secretary-General

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# 1. Centro de Investigación Social, Formación y Estudios de la Mujer

**Special, 1997**

## I. Introduction

Centro de Investigación Social, Formación y Estudios de la Mujer (CISFEM) is a non-governmental organization working in social development areas and promoting cooperation and integration between groups and institutions. Its Gender Equity and Equality Forum and Venezuelan Women's Human Rights Observatory were founded to strengthen its work. The Observatory Net, comprising 44 organizations is directed by CISFEM, and covers 8 states nationally. Its voluntary work is supported by a number of international institutions, including some United Nations agencies.

## II. Contributions to the work of the United Nations

During the period 2005-2008: (a) preparation of Shadow Report of Women's Civil Society was published in Spanish and English in March 2005 on its website www.observatorimujeres.org.ve; (b) participated in thirty-fourth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; (c) organized seminars and workshops in 10 cities during 2006; (d) participated in fifty-first session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in February 2007; (e) participated in United Nations Development Fund for Women Andean Region Workshops in September 2007 and November 2008; and (f) currently is gathering information and statistical data for second shadow report.

## 2. National Union of Jurists of Cuba

**Special, 1997**

# I. Introduction

### Aims of the organization

The National Union of Jurists of Cuba (NUJC), a non-profit, self-financed non-governmental organization of law professionals, with a voluntary membership of more than 19,000, has as its primary aim the scientific-technical and professional development of its members.

# II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

## A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

During the period 2005-2009: (a) annually presented written reports at meetings of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva; (b) attended all social regional forums held in Brazil, Bolivia and Guatemala and the World Forum in Kenya in 2008; (c) participated in Summits of the Americas, the Ibero-American Summit and Non-Aligned Movement meetings; (d) worked on issue of the blockade policy of the United States of America and participated in related activities with the Cuban Association of the United Nations; (e) facilitated visits of officials from international organizations, such as the International and Regional Red Cross Committees; (f) organized IVth International Seminar on International Humanitarian Law in 2005 and the Vth International Meeting of Law Professionals in 2009; (g) meetings, seminars and courses with representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; (h) participated in regional seminar for the Caribbean on principles and values of international humanitarian law and the International Red Cross Movement, in 2005, in the Dominican Republic; and (i) NUJC and its Society for Computer Law coordinated a project to computerize virtual law libraries in its main office and provincial boards, which was related to the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

## B. Cooperation with the United Nations bodies

(a) Cooperated with the American Association of Jurists (AAJ)-International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), as an executive office holder and participant in meetings and congresses, for which it contributed written statements; (b) cooperated with the Inter-American Human Rights Institute in holding a seminar on human rights and environmental law in 2005, in Cuba; (c) contributed to report on racial discrimination.

During 2005: (a) Vth International Conference on Informatics, in February, in Havana; (b) Vth Conference on Environmental Law, in March; (c) Vth International Meeting on Tourism, in May; and (d) UIBA congress, in July; (e) Havana's International Summer School on international public law, in July.

During 2006: (a) International meeting of women jurists, in May; (b) Havana's International Summer School on international public law, in July; and (c) international meeting on foreign investment and integration, in November.

During 2007: (a) VIth Conference on Environmental Law, in March; (b) Havana's International Summer School on international public law; and (c) Vth Seminar-Workshop on International Humanitarian Law, in November.

During 2008: (a) IInd International meeting on women, gender and law, in May; (b) Inter-American Meeting on Labour Law and Social Security, in March; (c) Havana Summer School on international public law, in June and July; (d) VIIth Meeting on Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment, in November; and (e) other international conferences on family law, arbitration and mediation.

During the period 2005-2009: (a) NUJC held many bilateral international meetings in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Spain, the United States and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of); and (b) organized master's, doctoral and post-doctoral degree courses for many universities.

# 3. International Association of Initiatives of Change

**Special, 2005**

## I. Introduction

### Aims of the organization

The International Association of Initiatives of Change works to build trust across the world's divides and foster collective responsibility, human dignity, equality and equity. Based in Caux, Switzerland, the Association brings its perspectives, knowledge and experience to the attention of United Nations and related institutions, Governments and leaders of civil society and facilitates interactions and partnerships, focusing on justice, healing and human development, for the purposes of creating jobs, correcting economic and environmental imbalances and tackling the root causes of corruption, poverty and social exclusion. During the past four years, in a growing partnership with the Swiss Government, the Association has been fostering reconciliation in the Great Lakes region of Africa and the consolidation of peace in Burundi. Three other such partnerships were developed in 2008, with support from the Governments of Germany and Switzerland.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Senior officials of the Association often speak at and participate in United Nations and other diplomatic and academic events and international conferences on peace and non-violence. The Association's peace and reconciliation programmes have been strongly developed over the years in Burundi and Sierra Leone.

### A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

Association representatives participated in many conferences and meetings from 2006 to 2008, as described below:

During 2006: (a) High-level meetings with United Nations officials in March, in New York; (b) 59th annual conference for non-governmental organizations associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information, in September; and (c) world premier screening of the film, "The Imam and the Pastor", produced as part of the Association's international training programme, for a high-level United Nations audience, in November.

During 2007: (a) 51st meeting of the Committee on the Status of Women in March, in New York; (b) Civil Society Development Forum, in June; (c) substantive session of the Economic and Social Council and side events, in July; and (d) Platform for Peace, in November, in Geneva.

During 2008: (a) Congo Geneva Committee Meeting, in January; (b) International Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, in September, in Geneva; (c) 61st Annual Department of Public Information Conference, in September, in Paris; (d) Hope-Sierra Leone

meeting in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme, in November; (e) participated in high-level United Nations meetings and civil society forums, as well as seminars organized by the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and conferences organized by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the Department of Public Information; and (f) liaised between the Council of Europe and Association organizations.

## B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

In 2006 the Geneva office conducted a survey among its various associations to evaluate their work vis-à-vis the Millennium Development Goals, and continued its work in Cambodia, Somalia and the Middle East, as well as facilitated interaction between army officials and rebel leaders, ministers and civil servants, and Muslims and Christians.

Goal 1: Farmer's Dialogue team helps farmers address root causes of poverty, such as in Kenya, where it transformed the lives of over 5,000 dairy farmers and in Costa Rica where it encouraged food production.

Goal 3: Its Women Creators of Peace encourages people to speak out against injustices and inequality in Australia, Fiji and Solomon Islands, among many other countries. Its Action for Life teaches Asian communities about working with others. Women participated in Clean Africa Campaign and the Caux Scholars' Programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Mozambique.

Goal 6: Creators of Peace empowers people in disease prevention and a former Caux scholar developed an HIV/AIDS prevention project on the China-Myanmar border. The Agenda for Reconciliation also fights disease. In August 2006, its Honest Dialogue for a Clean and Just Africa helped participants become responsible change agents in their national health-care structures.

Goal 7: Farmer's Dialogue worked with small-scale farmers in tree planting in Kenya, provided farmers with training in Zimbabwe and worked in water harvesting in India. The Caux Forum, in close collaboration with Clare Short, worked on climate change challenges, among others.

Goal 8: Farmer's Dialogue arranged contacts with members of the European Parliament. A Creators of Peace team member, originally from Somalia, started a school for training and introduction into Swedish society for immigrants and asylum-seekers. The Trust and Integrity in the Global Economy initiative fosters positive values and ethics in business, and social and environmental responsibility. The Caux Round Table helps senior business leaders to resolve international trade and business issues.

## C. Activities in support of global principles

Information on training programmes and intercultural dialogue programmes, notably in Scandinavian countries, as well as in France, Kenya, Lebanon, the United Kingdom and the United States, can be found on the Association's website at www.iofc.org.

# 4. Swedish NGO Foundation for Human Rights

**Special, 2005**

## I. Introduction

### A. Aims of the organization

The non-profit Swedish NGO Foundation for Human Rights focuses on three thematic areas: (a) economic, social and cultural rights; (b) women's rights for human rights; and (c) promotion of the rule of law, through training activities; information and opinion-building efforts; and the monitoring of human rights. Through seminars, debates and direct dialogue, it seeks to alert decision makers to human rights issues in Sweden or with regard to Swedish foreign and development assistance policy. Training is conducted in the form of seminars and tailor-made training programmes for NGOs, companies and central and local authorities; higher education courses on human rights and democracy are also provided. The Foundation is one of the initiators and organizers of the annual Human Rights Forum, the largest conference focusing on human rights in Nordic countries.

### B. Significant changes in the organization

While the Foundation's aims and purposes remain the same, an amendment has been made in its statutes concerning wording in the text and the list of members. In 2008, the former trustees withdrew and were replaced by the Sensus Study Association, a Swedish NGO for adult education, education, culture and democracy. The change has no substantial implications for the vision and objectives of the Foundation.

## II. Contributions to the work of the United Nations

The activities below are only those that were carried out by the Foundation itself. In its role as a donor to local human rights NGOs in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Foundation also supported activities which may relate to the United Nations and its work, but information on such activities should be covered in the separate reports of the respective organizations.

### A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

During 2006: An alternative report of the Swedish Government was prepared for the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

During 2008: A side-event was organized at the meeting of the Human Rights Council, in September, in Geneva, namely a seminar on sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

## B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During 2005: (a) Cooperation with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture, in March, in Stockholm; and (b) launching the idea of holding an international human rights action plan conference, with Swedish Government support; and meeting with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in April, and the Swedish Minister for Human Rights, in September.

During 2006: Cooperated with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, in cooperation with Swedish Amnesty, in June, in Stockholm.

During 2007: Held workshop with United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, in January, in Stockholm.

During 2008: Held a conference on the theme "rights work", in November.

## C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

During 2006: (a) Goal 1: Seminar on the Millennium Development Goals and hunger was held in May, in Stockholm, in conjunction with the FoodFirst Information and Action Network; (b) a seminar on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in December, in Stockholm.

## D. Promotion of Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Throughout the period, the Foundation promoted the adoption of an optional protocol to the United Nations Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

# 5. Unitarian Universalist Association

**Special, 1997**

## I. Introduction

The Unitarian Universalist Association has supported the United Nations and its missions since its foundation. It led the faith-based coalition for the establishment of the International Criminal Court, and the Executive Director of its United Nations Office is the chairperson of the Faith and Ethics Network for the Court, as well as the vice-chairperson of the Council of Organizations for UNA/USA. In holding senior positions in other such groups, it continues to play a leading role in the faith-based community in the United Nations, maintaining strong advocacy positions that influence United Nations policy on human rights, ending genocide, supporting the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development.

### A. Aims of the organization

The Association, a faith-based NGO operative in the United Nations system and international community, is financially supported by its membership, and acts as a voice for the religious denomination of Unitarian Universalists and as a venue for education, advocacy and outreach on United Nations-related issues, particularly among congregations in North America. It promotes the ideals of peace, liberty and justice for all; fosters sustainable development; and educates, advocates and actively works towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It works in support of peacekeeping operations in Darfur and around the world, and lobbies diplomatic missions to the Security Council to end genocide in Darfur.

### B. Significant changes in the organization

Since establishing its internship programme in 2001, many young people have pursued careers in the United Nations system or in other related international organizations.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

During 2005: The United Nations Millennium Project released a report on investing in development, which recommended that developed countries deliver 0.7 per cent of GNP for official development assistance. The Association launched a programme to elicit direct participation in the work of the Millennium Development Goals, and offered direct entry points to send AIDS orphans to primary school in the Manya Krobo district of Eastern Ghana, where as many as 1,400 children receive primary school education, in a two to one ratio of girls to boys. Its Action Alerts concerning loss of life and displacement of people in Darfur energized congregations to start a faxing campaign to respective government officials in seeking action on social

justice. In April 2005, its annual seminar on HIV/AIDS featured an Islamic scholar as keynote speaker.

During 2006: The Association's internship programme provided students from the high school to post-graduate levels with direct work experience in the United Nations. Its annual spring intergenerational seminar brought together Canadian and American participants for a three-day United Nations-focused conference.

During 2007: It continued its advocacy to end the fighting in Sudan, and partnered with the Save Darfur Coalition to protect all civilians, especially women and children, from civil conflict in Darfur. In partnership with the Permanent Mission of Thailand, it hosted an international intergenerational seminar in April 2007 on human trafficking. It also worked with the NGO Committee on Disarmament to support efforts to achieve global nuclear disarmament and drastic reductions in the manufacture and sale of small arms. Under its internship programme, an outstanding intern joined the International Labour Organization in Geneva, and another went on to study international development at Oxford University. At the end of 2007, it hired a new executive director who had worked for 25 years as a diplomat.

During 2008: For the Department of Public Information/NGO Human Rights Conference in Paris, the Association worked as conference caucus coordinator, workshop leader and co-moderator of a breakout session. It also partnered with the Permanent Mission of Canada to host its largest international intergenerational spring seminar to date, on building a culture of peace. It also advocated that all Governments pay their United Nations dues and peacekeeping assessments on time, in full and without condition.

# 6. Women International Democratic Federation

**General, 1969**

## I. Introduction

### Aims of the organization

The Women International Democratic Federation (WIDF) was founded in France in 1945, with the goal of fighting against all kinds of discrimination and for equality of rights and cooperation between peoples and nations for world peace. It comprises 209 national women's organizations from 103 countries: it defends their rights as mothers, workers and citizens, and rights of children to life, welfare, education and health. It also supports the equality of rights, women's access to work in all sectors with fair salaries, the elimination of racial discrimination and all kinds of violence.

## II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

### Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

Representatives attended the following meetings in North America, Africa, Europe and the Middle East, all of which were related to women's solidarity and struggle for emancipation and equality.

During 2005: (a) Vth World Social Forum: in January, in Porto Alegre, Brazil; (b) forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, helping to revise the Beijing Platform for Action, in February and March, in New York; (c) seminar on cooperation of Portuguese-speaking countries in June, in Brasilia; (d) WIDF steering committee meeting, in September, in Luanda; (e) IInd SOS Africa, in September, in Luanda; (f) visited UNESCO in December, in Paris; and (g) visited Palestinian people, especially women, in December, in Ramallah, Palestine.

During 2006: (a) Attended the World Social Forum, in January, in Caracas; (b) Fiftieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, in March, in New York; (c) WIDF steering committee meeting, and seminar on women's participation, in April, in Lisbon; (d) international seminar on trafficking in women, organized by the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Population Fund, in July, in Salvador, Brazil; (e) WIDF steering committee meeting, and seminar on empowerment of women, in November, in Rome.

During 2007: (a) Attended World Social Forum, in January and February, in Nairobi; (b) national preparatory committee for XIVth Congress of WIDF, in February, in Caracas; (c) WIDF steering committee meeting, in April, in Caracas; (d) WIDF XIVth Congress on the theme of women of the whole world, which focused on the struggle of all women to gain access to work, and services, day-care centres, schools, and other social institutions; (e) social forum of the Common Market of the South, in which WIDF participated with affiliated organizations from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Equator, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), focusing on gender and race, in July, in Curitiba, Brazil;

(f) Xth Regional Conference for Women from Latin America and the Caribbean, in August, in Quito; (g) conference on working women organized by the World Federation of Trade Unions, in September, in Brussels.

During 2008: (a) fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, in February and March, in New York; (b) United Nations International Conference on Palestine Refugees, in April, at UNESCO headquarters, in Paris; (c) seminar on trafficking in women, in partnership with Ibirapuera University, in May, in São Paulo, Brazil; (d) capacity-building in gender and the economy, for 30 Latin American leaders, in May, in WIDF America and Caribbean Regional Office, Havana; (e) WIDF steering committee, in July, in Brussels.